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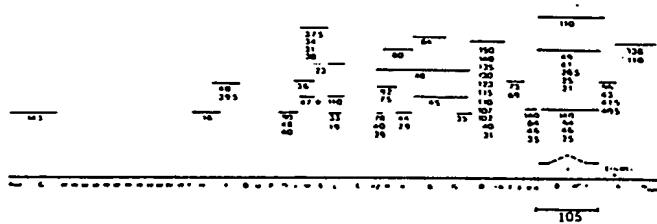
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㉘ DNA sequences of the EBV genome, recombinant DNA molecules, processes for producing EBV-related antigens, diagnostic compositions and pharmaceutical compositions containing said antigens.

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Described are DNA sequences of the EBV genome coding for EBV-related antigens, recombinant DNA molecules containing said DNA sequences, vector/host systems for cloning and expression of said DNA sequences, EBV-related antigens and methods for their preparation, diagnostic and pharmaceutical compositions containing said DNA sequences and antigens respectively (Fig. 2).

Mapping of mRNA's relative to the EBV B95-8 genome.



47\* from translation in vitro correlates with  
p54 from in vivo labelling

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15 DNA sequences of the EBV genome, recombinant DNA molecules, processes for producing EBV-related antigens, diagnostic compositions and pharmaceutical compositions containing said antigens

20

Technical field of invention

25 This invention relates to DNA sequences of the EBV genome coding at least for parts of EBV-related antigens to be used in methods and diagnostic and pharmaceutical compositions referred to below and methods of localising and isolating at least part of the respective DNA sequences.

30 Furthermore the invention relates to recombinant DNA molecules i.e. cloning and expression vectors useful for the production of antigenic determinants of said EBV-related antigens after introduction of these vectors into appropriate hosts such as bacteria, yeasts and mammalian cells.

35

Finally this invention relates to methods and compositions or kits, respectively, for a rapid, simple, highly sensitive and highly specific determination of antibodies directed to EBV-related antigens. In these tests different antigens of EBV are used to detect specific antibody classes in the patient's serum, directed to these antigens. This detection allows fairly reliable conclusions as to the status of infection of the serum donor such as preinfection, fresh infection, chronic infection, convalescence and neoplastic condition. Furthermore, this invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions, e.g. vaccines containing said antigens useful for prophylaxis and therapy of EBV-related diseases.

#### Background Art

The herpesviruses (Herpetoviridae) are enveloped icosahedral capsids with an overall diameter of 150 nm. The viral genome consists of a double-stranded DNA with a molecular weight of approximately  $10^8$  D. Human herpesviruses are Herpes simplex I ("fever blisters"), Herpes simplex II (genital herpes), Varicella-Zoster (chickenpox, shingles), Cytomegalovirus (congenital abnormalities, e.g. microcephaly), and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) (infectious mononucleosis(IM), Burkitt's lymphoma (BL), nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC))

Herpesviruses display a remarkable propensity for establishing latent infections which may persist for the life of the host. After the primary infection the virus may remain quiescent, being demonstrable only sporadically or not at all, until it is reactivated by one of several known types of stimulus, such as irradiation or immunosuppression. Such exacerbations of endogenous disease may take the form of a crop of vesicles on the skin in the case of herpes simplex or zoster, or more generalized effects in the case of cytomegalovirus or EBV. The capacity to persist

1 indefinitely as a latent infection enables these viruses to survive in nature for a long time. During the last years, attention has turned to the correlation of human cancer and EBV.

5

Epstein-Barr-Virus (EBV), infections and their consequences

EBV causes infectious mononucleosis as a primary disease. 10 Predominantly it affects children or young adults. More than 90 % of the average adult population is infected by EBV that persists for lifetime in peripheral B-lymphocytes. The virus is lifelong produced in the parotid gland and spread via the oral route.

15

Serology suggests that EBV might be involved in causing two neoplastic diseases of man, African Burkitt's lymphoma (BL) and nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC). Infectious mononucleosis is a consequence of primary infection by EBV. 20 It is not a life-threatening disease if additional risk factors are absent.

However, the subjective feeling of sickness, frequently for extended periods (in the order of several weeks), and 25 the necessity to avoid physical stress due to the drastically increased risk of splenic rupture would certainly suggest a control of this disease.

30 The clinical diagnosis of infectious mononucleosis is usually derived from a combination of the following parameters:

1. High leukocyte count ranging from 10,000 to 20,000 and reaching up to 50,000
2. 10 % atypical cells
3. lymphadenitis
4. fever.

- 1 Patients with infectious mononucleosis  
shed EBV in their saliva. Virus shedding does not require  
special prevention against spreading the disease as epi-  
demics and infection of persons in close contact are rare  
5 (A.S. Evans, "The transmission of EB viral infections.  
Viral Infections in Oral Medicine.", edited by J. Hooks,  
G. Jordan, Elsevier North Holland Amsterdam, p. 211  
(1982)). Virus shedding does not stop with recovery from  
disease and at least 60 % (possibly up to 100 %) of the  
10 adult population shed at least low levels of EBV which  
is produced lifelong in epithelial cells of the salivary  
duct of the parotid gland (H. Wolf, M. Haus, E. Wilmes,  
"Persistence of Epstein-Barr virus in the parotid gland",  
J. Virol. 51 (1984)).
- 15 About 1 % of the infectious mononucleosis cases show  
complications either already at the onset of the disease  
or as a late consequence. Most complications are due to  
autoimmune mechanisms and are in some cases indiscernable  
20 from graft versus host disease, a mechanism by which  
the body might clear itself from the excess of EBV con-  
verted proliferating B-cells.
- If the T-cell response is insufficient, e.g. due to  
25 circumstances like treatment with high doses of Cyclo-  
sporin A in combination with corticosteroids or due to  
AIDS or a certain genetic predisposition as described by  
Purtilo (Duncan's syndrome, X-chromosome-linked lympho-  
proliferative disease (XLP); D.T. Purtilo, K. Sakamoto,  
30 V. Barnabei, J. Seeley, T. Bechtol, G. Rogers, J. Yetz,  
S. Harada and the XLP-collaborators: "Epstein-Barr virus-  
induced diseases in boys with the X-linked lympho-pro-  
liferative syndrome (XLP). Update on studies of the  
35 registry." Am. J. Med. 73, p. 49 (1982)), infected  
B-cells may have a chance to escape from host control and  
grow without limitation as they would do when being

1 cultivated in vitro. The consequences have been described  
as BL-like disease in cases of AIDS patients (J.L. Ziegler,  
R.C. Miner, E. Rosenbaum, E.T. Lennette, E. Shillitoe,  
C. Casavant, W.L. Drew, L. Mintz, J. Gershon, J. Green-  
5 span, J. Beckstead, K. Yamamoto, "Outbreak of Burkitt's-  
like lymphoma in homosexual men.", Lancet 2, p. 631 (1982))  
or as a polyclonal lympho-proliferative disease for XLP-  
patients (D.T. Purtilo et al., *supra*) or kidney transplant  
recipients (D.W. Hanto, G. Frizzera, D.T. Purtilo, K.  
10 Sakamoto, J.L. Sullivan, A.K. Saemundsen, G. Klein, R.L.  
Simmons, J.S. Najarian, "Clinical spectrum of lympho-pro-  
liferative disorders in renal transplant recipients and  
evidence for the role of Epstein-Barr virus.", Cancer  
Res. 41, p. 4253 (1981)).

15

The positive and fast identification of infectious mono-  
nucleosis or acute EBV infection is especially important  
in cases where a differential diagnosis to leukemia or,  
in case of transplant recipient, to graft rejection crisis  
20 is necessary. In these cases, a false diagnosis may lead  
to incorrect therapy, which may have serious, even life-  
threatening effects.

25 Prevention of primary disease caused by EBV

Infectious mononucleosis seems to be unknown in areas like  
the Philippines or Malaysia (D.S.K. Tan, "Absence of  
infectious mononucleosis among Asians in Malaya.",  
30 Med. J. Malaya 21, p. 358 (1967)) where infection by EBV  
occurs very early in life. Almost the whole population  
has antibodies at the age of 2-10 years at the latest.  
Clinical symptoms seem to be a consequence of juvenile  
or adult infection. It can be assumed that a vaccine-  
35 primed organism will be infected without significant  
clinical symptoms and that the consequences often fatal  
in the risk groups listed above could be eliminated by  
a vaccine.

1 Burkitt's Lymphoma and EBV

5 The development of Burkitt's lymphoma is linked to chromosomal rearrangements. Not all cases contain EBV genomes in the tumor cells. However, at least in areas with high incidence, 97 % of these neoplasias are EBV-related and a control of EBV infection is likely to reduce the risk of developing Burkitt's lymphoma.

10 Nasopharyngeal carcinoma as a possible "secondary disease" related to EBV

15 The other disease where EBV shows a 100 % association is nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) ("The Biology of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma", UICC technical report series, vol. 71, edited by M.J. Simons and K. Shanmugaratnam, International Union Against Cancer, Geneva, p. 1 (1982)). NPC most frequently starts at the fossa of Rosenmueller (Recessus pharyngeus) at the postnasal space. Frequently 20 patients are hospitalized only after the first typical metastases have developed in the cervical lymph nodes.

25 In some areas of Southern China and amongst Chinese in Singapore and Malaysia, NPC is the most frequent neoplasia of man with an incidence of up to 40 per 100,000 per year. In other parts of the world, like Borneo or Tunesia the incidence is also high. In most other areas, the incidence is around 0,2 per 100,000 per year which represents about 30 4 % of ear, nose and throat (ENT)-tumors. The age distribution shows a clear single peak around the age of 40 to 50 in almost all high-risk areas. In Borneo and to some extent in Tunesia, a remarkable second peak has, however, been observed at an early age ranging from 5 to 15 years 35 (M. J. Simons et al., *supra*).

- 1 Environmental factors including traditional Chinese  
medicine may be responsible for the increased risk of  
nasopharyngeal carcinoma in certain, predominantly  
Chinese, populations of Southern Asia (H. Wolf, "Biology  
5 of Epstein-Barr virus in: "Immune deficiency and cancer:  
Epstein-Barr virus and lymphoproliferative malignancies",  
ed. D. Purtalo, Plenum Press, p. 233 (1984)).

Control of EBV-related neoplasia

10

There are three possible basic strategies to control  
neoplasia:

15

1. Early detection followed by therapy,
2. delay of onset of disease ideally beyond the average  
lifespan, and
3. prevention.

20

These goals may be achieved also in multifactorial  
diseases such as many neoplasias. Incidence of disease  
may be reduced by eliminating one or more of the essential  
factors which are not necessarily sufficient by them-  
selves to cause the disease, or by reducing factors which  
promote the manifestation of neoplastic conditions.

25

The use of the specific virus-related antigens of this  
invention, or antibodies or genetic materials as tools  
for early diagnosis of virus-related tumors, might  
facilitate the elimination of essential factors.

30

Selection of EBV-related gene products for diagnosis of  
EBV-related NPC

- A. Primary infection with EBV: Development of antibodies  
against VCA (viral capsid antigen), EA (early antigen)  
and EBNA (Epstein-Barr Nuclear Antigen)

35

1 EBV infects B-lymphocytes during acute or primary in-  
 fection (mononucleosis). Due to the lack of immune res-  
 ponse, a number of cells enter into the lytic cycle  
 and produce a full set of viral antigens which are shed  
 5 into the blood stream during cytolysis. Against these  
 antigens, specific antibodies will be synthesized by  
 the host's immune system (Table A).

10 Probably not all B-lymphocytes are capable of supporting  
 a fully lytic infection due to a cellular factor which  
 prevents expression of EBV. These cells are latently  
 carrying EBV genomes for the rest of the host's life.

Table A

15

DISEASE	VCA:	IgG	IgM	IgA	EA	EBNA	MA <sup>1</sup>
NORMAL ADULTS	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
ACUTE ADULTS (EARLY)	++	+	-	+	-	-	-
CHRONIC INFECTION	+	+	-	±	±	±?	±?
REACTIVATION	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
XLP <sup>2</sup>	+	-	-	±	(+)	?	?
NPC	++	-	+	+(D)	+	++	++
BL	++	-	-	+(R)	+	+	+

<sup>2</sup> XLP AS AN EXAMPLE OF IMMUNOLOGICALLY DEPRIVED HOSTS

30 DETERMINED BY IMMUNOPRECIPITATION OF SP 240/200

(MA; membrane antigen)

B. Convalescence: Disappearance of antibodies against  
 EA and maintenance of antibodies against VCA and EBNA

35

As the immune defense mechanisms of the body remove the

lytically infected cells from the circulation, the antibody levels will start to fall during the convalescent phase. After a certain period, anti-EA-antibodies disappear. However, as mentioned above, EBV is produced in the parotid gland. The viral particles and intracellular virus-associated antigens including EA will be shed into the saliva and reach the oropharynx. Here the viral particles bind to the B-lymphocytes and are presented to the body as antigens, thus the antibody titer against VCA is maintained. Since EA cannot bind to the lymphocytes it will be degraded by proteases and therefore will not be available to the immune system as an antibody-inducing antigen.

The circulating lymphocytes that are latently infected by EBV contain EBNA. At the end of their life cycle these cells disintegrate and release EBNA into the blood stream. Therefore antibodies to this antigen will persist.

Thus, due to the EBV-production in the parotid gland and to the release of EBNA from latently infected B-cells, sera of convalescents will have low anti-VCA and anti-EBNA IgG-antibody levels (see Table A, supra).

In addition EA released from rare B lymphocytes which may enter a lytic cycle may be an inferior antigen and may not give rise to antibody levels detectable with the test systems used.

In combination with the known sequence of appearance of antibody classes, specifically the early presence of IgM antibodies followed by IgG antibodies, the various antigen classes of primary disease caused by EBV can be utilized for improved diagnostic procedures. However, available test systems which are mainly based on cellular antigens or cell derived antigens have serious limitations. This concerns the sensitivity, especially for detection of IgM antibodies and also unspecific reactions.

1    C. EBV-related antibodies in individuals suffering of NPC:

5            The first suggestive evidence that Epstein-Barr virus might be causally related to nasopharyngeal carcinoma and African Burkitt's Lymphoma was derived from serological data (for review see M.A. Epstein, B.G. Achong, "The Epstein-Barr Virus" Springer Verlag Berlin, Heidelberg, New York (1979)).

10            Using mainly indirect immunofluorescence on cells producing virus or at least early viral antigens, significantly higher antibody titers to these antigens were found in patients' sera. These first tests which detected unspecified immunoglobulin classes against a group of proteins named Early Antigen (EA) and another group of proteins named Virus Capsid Antigens (VCA) were helpful for the establishment of a relationship between EBV and these diseases. These tests, however, are of limited value for definite diagnosis of the malignancies from a single serum, and cannot be used for monitoring therapy.

25            The introduction of antigen and antibody class specific tests, specifically the determination of peripheral IgA antibodies for the two antigen families EA and VCA and also the first attempts to subdivide at least the EA-family (EA, D or R; G. Henle, W. Henle and G. Klein, "Demonstration of 2 distinct components in the early antigen complex of Epstein-Barr Virus infected cells", Int. J. Cancer 8, p. 272 (1971)) achieved remarkable improvements of the diagnostic and prognostic value of the tests.

30            In the areas of high risk for NPC, 1% of the adult population has IgA antibodies for EBV-Capsid antigen (VCA).

- 1 Three percent of this group has NPC upon clinical examination and, with the exception of terminal cases, there were no anti-VCA IgA negative cases detected. Out of the IgA anti-VCA positives, about 1% per year developed NPC in
- 5 a 3 year follow up. A test of this quality, if available as a highly specific automat- readable ELISA test, would provide an excellent "first step" screening for a popu- lation of extreme risk.
- 10 Detection of EB virus IgA/VCA antibody is helpful for diagnosis of NPC (see table on page 14), and of special value for the detection of early stages. For example, in Wuzhou City (China; high risk area for NPC), the frequency of NPC detected by serological mass survey revealed a much higher per-
- 15 centage of patients in stages I (42%) and II (48%) than otherwise detected in outpatient clinics (1.7% stage I and 30 % stage II). The chance of survival is clearly related to the stage at which therapy is begun. The sur- vival rates for stage I are (according to Shanghai Tumor
- 20 Hospital) 93%, for stage II 75%, and are very low for more advanced stages. Therefore it is possible to reduce the mortality rate of NPC through early detection and early treatment.
- 25 IgA antibodies to the early antigen complex of EBV can be detected in 40 % to 70 % of NPC patients, depending on the method used. These antibodies are virtually absent in the non-tumorbearing population. Such test of the tumorbearing individuals should be of great importance for the decision to start therapy, and its value would be even higher if the sensitivity could be enhanced to allow detection of disease in closer to 100 % of the tumor patients.
- 30
- 35 The detection rate of NPC among IgA/VCA antibody-positive individuals is 1.9 % and that of IgA/EA individuals is 30-40 %. These data indicate that the IgA/EA antibody

- 12 -

test is more specific for the detection of NPC, but not as sensitive as IgA/VCA antibody.

A number of laboratories have used the continuous determination of IgA antibodies to EA and VCA to monitor the success of therapy and for early detection of relapse with very good success.

Membrane protein gp 250/350 and its use

Four proteins of the viral envelope constituting the so-called membrane antigen complex (MA) have been described (L.F. Qualtiere, G.R. Pearson, et. al., *supra*; J. North, A.J. Morgan, M.A. Epstein, "Observations on the EB virus envelope and virus-determined membrane antigen (MA) polypeptides", *Int. J. Cancer* 26, p. 231 (1980)). Two of these proteins, i.e. gp 250 and gp 350, are antigenically closely related (D.A. Thorley-Lawson and K. Geilinger, "Monoclonal antibodies against the major glycoprotein (gp 250/350) of Epstein-Barr virus neutralize infectivity", *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 77, p. 5307 (1980)). The molecular weight of one component ranges from 200,000 to 250,000 D depending on the cell line where the virus is derived from and the second antigenetically related glycoprotein has a molecular weight of 300,000-350,000 D but is absent in some cell lines. Since these glycoproteins are all related in antigenicity, protein and encoding DNA sequence, they are usually referred to as gp 220/350 or gp 250/350 or simply as gp 250 or gp 350 but meaning the whole family of related glycoproteins.

Glycoprotein 250/350 is able to bind to the EBV receptor of human and some primate B-lymphocytes and to thus initiate the infection of these cells (A. Wells, N. Koide, G. Klein, "Two large virion envelope glycoproteins mediate Epstein-Barr virus binding to receptor-positive cells",

1 J. Virol. 41, p. 286 (1982)). Antibodies against these  
proteins neutralize the infectivity of the virus, which  
could be demonstrated for human as well as for rabbit  
antisera and mouse monoclonal antibodies (D.A. Thorley-  
5 Lawson et. al., *supra*). By the use of monoclonal anti-  
bodies it has been shown that blocking of only one anti-  
genic determinant present both in gp 350 and gp 250 was  
sufficient for virus neutralization. Adsorption of human  
10 sera to immobilized gp 350 and gp 250 removed the  
neutralizing antibodies (D.A. Thorley-Lawson et. al.,  
*supra*). Thus, there is convincing evidence that  
a) gp 350 and gp 250 induce the production of neutral-  
izing antibodies, and that  
b) antibodies against gp 350 and gp 250 have neutralizing  
15 capacity.

Therefore, this protein as well as its related viral gene  
product, gp 350 (with a molecular weight of 350,000), are  
candidates for a possible EBV vaccine (A.J. Morgan, M.A.  
20 Epstein, J.R. North, "Comparative immunogenicity studies on  
Epstein-Barr virus membrane antigen (MA) gp 340 with  
novel adjuvants in mice, rabbits and cotton-top tamarins",  
J. Med. Virol. 13, p. 281 (1984)). These glycoproteins  
are expressed on induced EBV producer cell lines and  
25 can be easily demonstrated after radioiodination of  
cell surface proteins (L.F. Qualtieri, G.R. Pearson,  
"Epstein-Barr virus-induced membrane antigens: immuno-  
chemical characterization of Triton X-100 solubilized  
viral membrane antigens from EBV superinfected Raji cells",  
30 Int. J. Cancer 23, p. 808 (1979)).

1    Application of gp 250/350 for the diagnosis of EBV-related  
diseases

5    IgG antibodies are absent during the acute phase of primary  
     EBV infection, but present for lifetime after convalescence.  
     IgM antibodies are present in the early stage of the  
     disease and absent during convalescence.

10    IgA antibodies against EBV-antigens are present almost  
     exclusively in NPC patients and can be detected in sera  
     of at least 58 % of these patients even with not very  
     sensitive tests (Zeng Yi and Hans Wolf, manuscript in pre-  
     preparation and example 16, infra).

Comparison of Positive Rate of IgG and IgA Antibodies  
  to VCA and MA from NPC Patients and Normal Individuals

Cases	MA/IgG		MA/IgA		VCA/IgA		EA/IgA		
	(+)	No.	(+)	No.	(+)	No.	(+)	No.	
		rate%		rate%		rate%		rate%	
NPC Patients	48	48	100	28	58.3	48	100	51	64.6
Normal Individuals	48	47	97.9	0	0	0	0	0	0

\* MA/IgG and MA/IgA detected by immunofluorescence test

VCA/IgA and EA/IgA detected by immunoenzymatic test

35    The whole gp 250 molecule or parts of its backbone poly-  
     peptide chain can be utilized as reagents in preferentially  
     class-specific antibody detection tests such as passive  
     hemagglutination, counter gel electrophoresis, radio-  
     immunoassays or enzyme-linked immuno-absorbent assays.

- 15 -

1 Highly specific test antigens allow better signals and  
detect otherwise unrevealed low antibody levels of  
clinical significance. The use of singular antigenic  
sites of the gp 250 instead of the entire gene product  
5 may, in some cases, permit a more precise diagnosis  
of the disease.

Application of gp 250/350 for prophylaxis and treatment  
of EBV-related diseases

- 10 A. Since infection by EBV early in life only causes sub-  
clinical seroconversion, it may be anticipated that  
the presence of maternal antibodies or antibodies  
induced by a vaccine will influence the clinical  
15 manifestation of a primary EBV infection. It is  
expected that the vaccination of children or young  
adults, preferably before the peak of risk of catching  
an EBV infection, reduces effectively the clinical  
manifestation of infectious mononucleosis in the  
20 population.
- B. In all areas with high incidence rates for NPC or BL,  
the population shows almost 100 % seroconversion to  
EBV within the first one to two years of life.  
25 Vaccination will have to take place soon after birth.  
If this vaccination is regularly repeated, it will  
in all probability prevent EBV infection, delay it  
or reduce the biological effects of early primary  
infection. Each of these consequences is expected  
30 to either prevent the subsequent development of  
neoplasia, to delay its onset considerably or to de-  
crease the relative risk.

- 16 -

- 1 C. In NPC, occasional production of viral antigens at the site of the tumor will stimulate primarily IgA secreting B-lymphocytes. IgA antibodies are capable of blocking antibody-mediated cytotoxicity. IgA antibodies to viral membrane antigens, such as gp 250, are present in NPC and BL patients and may not only be indicators of the disease, but may even contribute to the failure of the immune system to eliminate the tumor cells by their masking potential. Large doses of the purified antigen given to tumor patients may bind IgA and initiate the formation of an excess of IgG antibodies directed to the same antigen. These specific IgG antibodies may then compete with remaining IgA antibodies and allow the elimination of tumor cells by antibody-dependent mechanisms.
- 5
- 10
- 15
- D. Appropriate administration of gp 250 or related products might also enhance the cellular immune mechanisms and thus restrict the growth of tumors.
- 20

Production of EBV specific antigens according to the present invention

1. As a consequence of all findings, it is one of the objects of this invention to improve the sensitivity of tests for detection of antibody classes and antigen specific antibodies and to develop a system which allows mass testing and better standardization.
- 25
2. EBV cannot be efficiently produced in a lytic cell cycle since efficiently infectable cells are not known at present and because all of the cells used as source for the preparation of EBV or related antigens are immortalized cells or even tumor derived cells. In most cell lines retroviruses have been demonstrated. The products isolated from such cultures therefore are not only very expensive but their use is also a potential safety risk.
- 30
- 35

- 1       3. The application of recombinant DNA technology has  
made possible the production of useful polypeptides  
by appropriate host cells transformed with recombinant  
5       DNA molecules and grown in appropriate culture systems.
- 10      4. According to the present invention, recombinant DNA  
methods are used to express the genetic information  
of the genes or at least of parts of the genes encoding the EBV pro-  
teins p138, p150 and gp 250/350 in appropriate host cells, such as  
bacteria (e.g. the genera Escherichia, Salmonella, Pseudomonas  
or Bacillus), yeasts (e.g. the genera Candida, or  
Saccharomyces) and mammalian cells (e.g. Vero-cells,  
CHO-cells or lymphoblastoid cell lines).
- 15      5. Furthermore, the genomic regions encoding the EBV proteins  
p150, p143, p138, p110, p105, p90, p80 and p54 were identified and their  
relevance for diagnostic purpose has been identified. Therefore, the  
key information for the production of these proteins or antigenic deter-  
minants thereof in a manner as demonstrated for the proteins p138, p150  
20      and gp 250/350 is also disclosed in the present invention.

Recombinant DNA technology

25 A. Expression control systems

Prokaryotes most frequently are represented by various  
strains of *E. coli*. However, other microbial strains  
may also be used, such as bacilli, for example  
30      *Bacillus subtilis*, various species of *Pseudomonas*,  
or other bacterial strains. In such prokaryotic  
systems, plasmid vectors which contain replication  
sites and control sequences derived from a species  
compatible with the host are used. For example, *E. coli*  
35      is typically transformed using derivatives of pBR322,  
a plasmid derived from an *E. coli* species by Bolivar,  
et al., *Gene* 2, p. 95 (1977). pBR322 contains genes for

1 ampicillin and tetracycline resistance, and these markers  
can be either retained or destroyed in constructing the  
desired vector. Commonly used prokaryotic control  
sequences which are defined herein to include pro-  
5 moters for transcription initiation, optionally with an  
operator, along with ribosome binding site sequences,  
include such commonly used promoters as the beta-  
lactamase (penicillinase) and lactose (lac) promoter  
systems (Chang, et. al. *Nature* 198, p. 1056 (1977))  
10 and the tryptophan (trp) promoter system (Goeddel, et  
al., *Nucleic Acids Res.* 8, p. 4057 (1980)). The lambda-  
derived  $P_L$  promoter and N-gene ribosome binding site  
(Shimatake, et al., *Nature* 292, p. 128 (1981), which  
has been made useful as a portable control cassette  
15 are further examples. However, any available promoter  
system compatible with prokaryotes can be used.

In addition to bacteria, eukaryotic microbes, such  
as yeast, may also be used as hosts. Laboratory strains  
20 of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, Baker's yeast, are most  
used, although a number of other strains are commonly  
available. While vectors employing the 2 micron origin  
of replication are illustrated (J.R. Broach, *Meth.*  
Enz. 101, p. 307 (1983)), other plasmid vectors suit-  
25 able for yeast expression are known (see, for example,  
Stinchcomb et al., *Nature* 282, p. 39 (1979); Tschempe  
et al., *Gene* 10, p. 157 (1980) and L. Clarke et al.,  
*Meth. Enz.* 101, p. 300 (1983)). Control sequences for  
yeast vectors include promoters for the synthesis of  
30 glycolytic enzymes (Hess et. al., *J. Adv. Enzyme Reg.* 7,  
p. 149 (1968); Holland et al., *Biochemistry* 17, p. 4900  
(1978)). Additional promoters known in the art include  
the promoter for 3-phosphoglycerate kinase (Hitzeman  
et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 255, p. 2073 (1980)), and those  
35 for other glycolytic enzymes, such as glyceraldehyde-  
3-phosphate dehydrogenase, hexokinase, pyruvate decarboxy-  
lase, phosphofructokinase, glucose-6-phosphate iso-

1   merase, 3-phosphoglycerate mutase, pyruvate kinase,  
triosephosphate isomerase, phosphoglucose isomerase,  
and glucokinase. Other promoters, which have the  
additional advantage of transcription controlled by  
5   growth conditions are the promoter regions for alcohol  
dehydrogenase 2, isocytochrome C, acid phosphatase,  
degradative enzymes associated with nitrogen metabolism,  
and enzymes responsible for maltose and galactose  
utilization (Holland, *supra*).

10

Evidence suggests that terminator sequences are de-  
sirable at the 3' end of the coding sequences. Such  
terminators are found in the 3' untranslated region  
following the coding sequences in yeast-derived genes.

15

Many of the vectors illustrated contain control sequences  
derived from the enolase-I gene containing plasmid  
peno46 (M.J. Holland et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 256, p. 1385  
(1981)) or the LEU 2 gene obtained from YEp13 (J. Broach  
et al., *Gene* 8, p. 121 (1979)), however, any vector  
20   containing a yeast-compatible promoter, origin of  
replication and other control sequences is suitable.

25

It is also, of course, possible to express genes en-  
coding polypeptides in eukaryotic host cell cultures  
derived from multicellular organisms. See, for example,  
Cruz and Patterson, editors, "Tissue Cultures", Academic  
Press (1973). Useful host cell lines include VERO and  
HeLa cells, and Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells.  
Expression vectors for such cells ordinarily include  
30   promoters and control sequences compatible with mammalian  
cells such as, for example, the commonly used early  
and late promoters from Simian Virus 40 (SV 40) (Fiers  
et al., *Nature* 273, p. 113 (1978)), or other viral  
promoters such as those derived from polyoma, Adeno-  
35   virus 2, bovine papilloma virus, or avian sarcoma viruses.  
General aspects of mammalian cell host system transfor-

- 20 -

- 1 mations have been described by Axel in U.S. Patent No.  
4,399,216 issued August 16, 1983. It now appears  
also that "enhancer" regions are important in optimizing  
expression; these are, generally, sequences found frequently up-  
5 stream of the promoter region. Origins of replication  
may be obtained, if needed, from viral sources. However,  
gene integration into the chromosome is a common  
mechanism for DNA replication in eukaryotes, and hence  
independently replicating vectors are not required.  
10 Plant cells are also now available as hosts, and  
control sequences compatible with plant cells such  
as the nopaline synthase promoter and polyadenylation  
signal sequences (A. Depicker et al., J. Mol. Appl. Gen. 1,  
p. 561 (1982)) are available.  
15

B. Transformation of suitable hosts

- Depending on the host cell used, transformation is done  
using standard techniques appropriate to such cells.  
20 The calcium treatment employing calcium chloride, as  
described by S.N. Cohen, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA) 69,  
p. 2110 (1972) is used for prokaryotes or other cells  
which contain substantial cell wall barriers. Infection  
with Agrobacterium tumefaciens (C.H. Shaw et al.,  
25 Gene 23, p. 315 (1983)) is used for certain plant cells.  
For mammalian cells without such cell walls, the  
calcium phosphate precipitation method of Graham  
and van der Eb (Virology 52, p. 546 (1978)) is pre-  
ferred. Transformations into yeast are carried out  
30 according to the method of P. van Solingen et al.  
(J. Bact. 130, p. 946 (1977)) and C. L. Hsiao et al.  
(Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. (USA) 76, p. 3829 (1979)).  
Alternatively, the procedure of Klebe, et al. (Gene 25,  
p. 333 (1983)) can be used.  
35

1 C. Construction of recombinant cloning and expression  
vectors

5 Construction of suitable vectors containing the desired coding and control sequences employs standard ligation and restriction techniques which are well understood in the art. Isolated plasmids, DNA sequences, or synthesized oligodeoxyribonucleotides are cleaved, tailored and religated in the form desired.

10

Site specific DNA cleavage is performed by treating with the suitable restriction enzyme (or enzymes) under conditions which are generally understood in the art, and the particulars of which are specified by the manufacturer of these commercially available restriction enzymes. See, e.g., New England Biolabs, Product Catalog.

15  
20

If desired, size separation of the cleaved fragments may be performed by polyacrylamide gel or agarose gel electrophoresis using standard techniques. A general description of size separations is found in "Methods in Enzymology" 65, p. 499-560 (1980).

25  
30

Restriction cleaved fragments may be blunt ended by treating with the large fragment of *E. coli* DNA polymerase I (Klenow) in the presence of the four deoxynucleotide triphosphates (dNTPs). The Klenow fragment fills in at 5' sticky ends but chews back protruding 3' single strands, even though the four dNTPs are present. If desired, selective repair can be performed by supplying only a selected one or more dNTPs within the limitations dictated by the nature of the sticky ends. Treatment under appropriate conditions with S1 nuclease results in hydrolysis of any single-stranded portion.

35

- 22 -

1 Synthetic oligonucleotides may be prepared by the  
triester method of Matteucci et al. (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 103,  
p. 3185 (1981)) or the diethylphosphoramidite method  
of Caruthers, described in U.S. Patent No. 4,415,732,  
5 issued November 15, 1983.

Ligations are performed under standard conditions and  
temperatures (as described below) using T4 DNA ligase.  
10 In vector constructions employing "vector fragments",  
the vector fragment is commonly treated with bacterial  
alkaline phosphatase (BAP) in order to remove the 5'  
phosphate and prevent religation of the vector. BAP  
digestions are carried out under standard conditions  
(as described below).  
15

D. Selection of transformants

In the constructions correct ligations for plasmid  
construction are confirmed by transforming E. coli  
20 or other suitable hosts with the ligation mixture.  
Successful transformants are selected by ampicillin,  
tetracycline or other antibiotic resistance or  
using other markers depending on the mode of plasmid  
construction, as is understood in the art.  
25

Brief summary of the invention

The present invention relates to the production of EBV  
specific antigens by recombinant DNA technology and their  
use in diagnosis, prophylaxis and therapy of EBV-related  
30 diseases. Therefore, it is an object of this invention  
to identify novel Epstein-Barr viral antigens, such as p150,  
p143, p138, p110, p105, p90, p80, p54 (G.J. Bayliss, H. Wolf,  
infra), which are correlated with Epstein-Barr virus related  
35 diseases like nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC), infectious  
mononucleosis, and Burkitt's lymphoma (see legend to  
Fig. 1 and Fig. 28) by immunological methods.

- 1 Another object of this invention is the localization and identification of genomic regions of EBV, for example as it has been cloned from B95-8 cells (American Type Culture Collection, Rockville, Maryland, USA (ATCC) CRL1612) (J. Skare, J.L. Strominger, "Cloning and mapping of BamHI endonuclease fragments of the DNA from the transforming B95-8 strain of Epstein-Barr Virus", Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77, p3860(1980)) coding for said antigens of diagnostic importance and of relevance for medical purposes. This is achieved by using the hybrid selection method.
- 5
- 10 A further object of the present invention is the sub-cloning of a genomic region of EBV, for example from existing libraries of EBV, cloned from B95-8 cells which encodes at least a part of useful antigens for
- 15 medical purposes, such as p138 and p150. This is achieved by joining a subgenomic fragment, e.g. an XhoI-fragment, derived from the EBV B95-8 subclone pBR322 BamA, (J. Skare et al., *supra*) to the plasmid pUC8 (J. Messing, *infra*) (pUC635, see Fig. 4).
- 20 Another object of this invention is the production of proteins by expression of the respective genetic information in suitable host cells, such as bacteria (e.g. of the genera Escherichia, Salmonella, Pseudomonas or Bacillus), yeasts (e.g. of the genera Candida or Saccharomyces) animal
- 25 cells and human cells (e.g. Vero-cells; CHO-cells; CHO dhfr<sup>-</sup> cells in combination with an appropriate selection system, optionally a plasmid carrying a functional dhfr gene as well as the genetic information for the EBV gene under control of a suitable regulation sequence; or lymphoblastoid cell lines). The proteins produced by these host cells contain
- 30 e.g. p138, p150 or gp250/350-related antigenic determinants (epitopes) and are, depending on the expression system, synthesized either as a fusion protein or as a non-fusion protein.
- 35

- 24 -

1 For the production of a fusion protein by bacteria  
the expression of the genomic subfragments, for example  
that encoding a part of p138 of EBV B95-8 and introduced into  
the known plasmid pUC8, was induced e.g. by isopropyl- $\beta$ -D-thiogalacto-  
5 pyranoside (IPTG). The respective expression products  
were identified by immunological methods.

Another fusion protein is provided by cleaving subclone  
pUC635 with EcoRI and BglII and introducing this frag-  
10 ment into the vector plasmid pUC9 (U. Rüther, *infra*). The  
resulting recombinant plasmid is pUC924 (Fig. 6). The expression  
product has a size of about 94 kd.

15 A further fusion protein is produced by expressing the  
genetic information of said XhoI-p138-encoding fragment  
of pBR322 BamA in the plasmid pEA305 (E. Amann, J. Brosius,  
M. Ptashne, "Vectors bearing a hybrid trp-lac-promoter  
useful for regulated expression of cloned genes in *E. coli*",  
Gene 25, p. 167 (1983)). After putting the p138 related  
information into a proper reading frame relative to pEA305,  
20 the clone pMF924 synthesizes a fusion protein that contains  
a part of the  $\lambda$ -repressor protein c, (Fig. 7).

25 Still another fusion protein is provided by cloning a 3.0 kb  
genomic XhoI-fragment containing p138-related genetic in-  
formation 3' to a hybrid trp-lac promoter (as described  
by F. Amann et. al., *supra*). For this purpose the known plasmid  
pKK240-11 was used. The resulting clone pKK378 synthesizes  
a fusion protein that is composed of an aminoterminal  
methionine residue followed by p138 related DNA sequences  
(Fig. 8).

30 Still another object of the present invention is to pro-  
vide fusion proteins, non-fusion proteins or oligopeptides  
which contain only the antigenic determinant protein sub-  
regions of viral proteins like p138. For this purpose  
35 the determinants of the protein are located by a computer-  
directed analysis, using a computer program developed by

- 25 -

1 us for the Digital Equipment VAX 11/750 computer. A similar  
program has been used for other problems and another com-  
puter by G.H. Cohen, B. Dietzschold, M. Ponce de Leon,  
D. Long, E. Golub, A. Varrichio, L. Pereira, R.J. Eisenberg,  
5 "Localization and synthesis of an antigenic determinant of  
Herpes simplex virus glycoprotein D that stimulates the  
production of neutralizing antibody", J. Virol 49, p. 102  
(1984). By cloning the respective fragments into vectors  
10 like pUC8 or pUR288 (U. Rüther et al., infra) plasmids  
as pUR600 and pUR540 were obtained. The produced large  
and small fusion proteins are investigated by gel  
electrophoresis and immunoblotting experiments. The clo-  
ning experiments in pUR288 were done for stabilizing  
15 the small p138-related polypeptides.

A further object of the present invention is the expression  
of polyantigens composed of antigenic determinants of  
several different EBV-serotypes. For that purpose the  
20 corresponding DNA fragments are linked and introduced  
in a suitable vector. The expression products are fusion  
and non-fusion EBV-specific polyantigens.

Further fusion proteins containing p150-related antigenic  
25 determinants were obtained by cloning and expression of the  
corresponding DNA sequences in pUR plasmids and pUC plasmids.  
The obtained constructs were the recombinant plasmids  
pUR290CXH580, pUR290DBX320, pUR292DBB180, pUR290DTT700,  
pURDTT740, pUR290DTP680, and pUR288DPP320.

30 Another object of the present invention is the construction  
of new expression vectors, such as pUC600 and pUC601  
which contain a part of the coding region of the viral  
protein p138. If DNA sequences are introduced 3' to this  
35 sequence into the vector, the expression products are  
stabilized by the p138-specific aminoacid sequence and  
protected against protease degradation.

- 1 Still another object of this invention is the modification  
of said expression vectors by introducing a DNA-sequence  
coding for three to fifteen Arginine residues and at  
least one stop codon 3' of the cloning site of said ex-  
5 pression vectors and furthermore positioned in an  
appropriate reading frame. The obtained vector is pUCARG601.  
If DNA-sequences coding for proteinaceous material are  
inserted into this expression vector the expression  
products will be fusion proteins carrying said Arginine  
10 residues at their carboxy terminus, such as those  
fusion proteins encoded by plasmids pUCARG1140 (see  
Fig. 12a)) and pUCARG680.
- 15 Thus it is an object of this invention to provide a simple  
method for isolating proteins useful for diagnosis, prophylaxis and the-  
rapy such as EBV p138 or related polypeptides or oligopeptides  
(antigens) from the host cell lysate according to the  
method of H. M. Sassenfeld, S.J. Brewer ("A polypeptide  
20 fusion designed for the purification of recombinant pro-  
teins", Bio/Technology 2, p. 76 (1984)).  
By introduction of said Arginine residues more  
the net charge of the expressed proteins becomes/positive  
and after lysis of the host cells the oligo-arginine  
25 linked proteins are isolated by a SP Sephadex C-25 column  
chromatography. Due to the oligo-arginine group the EBV  
specific proteins are eluted at a high NaCl-concentration.  
This eluate is then treated with carboxypeptidase B which  
degrades carboxy-terminal lysine and arginine residues.  
30 Finally another SP Sephadex C-25 chromatography is carried  
out wherein the EBV-related proteins are eluted at low  
salt concentrations (see Fig.16). It is evident, however,  
that this procedure may be used also for the purifi-  
cation of proteins secreted into the medium.

1 It is also evident that other established methods for  
protein-purification such as molecular sieving or affinity  
chromatography on ion exchange columns or columns loaded  
with specific antibodies to the expressed proteins can be  
5 used as additional or alternate purification methods.  
For the production of non-fusion proteins which essen-  
tially contain amino acid sequences of the naturally  
occurring proteins or parts thereof the recombinant plas-  
10 mids of the present invention may be modified. If an  
oligonucleotide linker is inserted between the bacterial  
protein encoding region and the EBV-related protein encoding  
region of the expression vector, the amino acid sequence  
corresponding to the oligonucleotide linker becomes part  
15 of the expressed fusion protein. After isolation of this  
fusion protein from the transformants expressing it, it is  
cleaved either by amino acid sequence specific proteases  
in the introduced aminoacid linker or, if the amino acid  
linker comprises peptide bonds sensitive to acid cleavage, by  
20 treatment with acids, e.g. formic acid.

20 A further object of this invention is the cloning of a  
genomic region of EBV coding for at least a part of  
the specific viral antigen gp 250 and gp 350. This is  
achieved by joining a subgenomic PstI-PstI fragment of the  
25 EBV genome from the cell strain B95-8 (ATCC CRL 1612) (R. Baer et al.,  
infra) contained in pBR322 BamL (J. Skare et al, supra) to the plasmid  
pUC8 (J. Messing et al., infra). The resulting recombinant plasmid  
is designated as pUCLP1.9 (see Fig. 19).

30 For the production of a fusion protein by bacteria, a  
genomic subfragment coding for a part of gp 250 and gp 350  
of EBV B95-8 was cloned into the vector pUR 290 (U.  
Rüther et al., infra) which carries a region of the lacZ  
35 gene coding for the enzyme  $\beta$ -galactosidase (pURLP1.9,  
see Fig. 20). The respective expression product was  
purified and identified by immunological methods.

1 Still another object of the present invention is to provide fusion proteins or non-fusion proteins which contain only the antigenic determinant protein subregions of gp 250 and gp 350. For this purpose the antigenic  
5 determinants of the proteins were localized by a computer-directed analysis using a computer program developed by us for the Digital Equipment VAX 11/750 computer.

10 The respective DNA-fragments are then cloned in a conventional expression vector such as pUR ( $\beta$ -galactosidase) (U. Rüther, et al., infra). Plasmids obtained were e.g. PURLEP600 and PURLXP390 (see Fig. 27).

15 Furthermore, the N-terminal antigenic determinant of gp250/350 was expressed as a fusion protein in a pUC vector (pUCLEP600, see Fig. 27).

20 Another fusion protein is provided by cloning a DNA-fragment coding for the N-terminal antigenic determinant of gp 250 and gp 350 into the expression vector pUCARG601 mentioned above.

25 A further object of the present invention is the expression of polyantigens containing several antigenic determinants of gp 250 and gp 350 located by said computer analysis. For this purpose the corresponding DNA fragments are linked and introduced in a suitable vector. The expression products are fusion and non-fusion EBV-specific polyantigens.

30 A final object of the present invention is the utilization of either said EBV-related proteins or subregions thereof or, if suitable, EBV-related DNA fragments or clones, for the production of diagnostic compositions (kits) useful in clinical diagnosis or scientific research. These tests are based on principles as ELISA (Enzyme-linked immuno sorbent assay), RIA (Radio immuno assay) or the 35 indirect hemagglutination assay. Furthermore, the EBV-

related proteins can be used, e.g. for monitoring vaccination programs, analyzing epidemiological problems, for patients treatment, and for the production of vaccines for prophylaxis and therapy of EBV-related diseases, such as mononucleosis, Burkitt's lymphoma and nasopharyngeal carcinoma. Vaccines can be manufactured according to conventional methods. Unit doses are filled in vials optionally together with a conventional adjuvant such as aluminium hydroxide. Alternatively the product may be administered in the form of aggregates with liposomes. Patients may be vaccinated with a dose sufficient to stimulate antibody formation and revaccinated after one month and after 6 months.

Finally the proteins are useful for prophylaxis and therapy of EBV-related diseases, because they are able to modulate the immune response in patients suffering from diseases such as NPC, chronic infectious mononucleosis or EBV-related Burkitt's lymphoma.

#### Brief description of the drawings

Figure 1: Autoradiography of an immunoprecipitation of EBV-specific sera derived from patients suffering from mononucleosis and NPC.

The immunoprecipitated  $^{35}\text{S}$ -labelled proteins were separated by a SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and an X-ray-film was exposed to the gel.

The sources of the different sera used for precipitation are given at the bottom of the respective regions of the autoradiography. The control, designated "pool", contains all of the immunoprecipitable EBV-specific proteins.

It can be taken from the autoradiography that at least antibodies to p138, p105 and p80 are present in each of the NPC sera and only in some of the other EBV-infection specific sera. In analogy, antibodies to p54 are significant for fresh EBV infection (infectious mononucleosis) as compared to convalescent state. Antibodies to p150, p143, p110, p90 are also present in convalescent sera of healthy individuals and can serve as markers for immunity or, in connection with IgM specific tests, for fresh EBV infection or, in connection with IgA, for a specific test for EBV-related neoplasia (NPC and BL).

Figure 2: Mapping of mRNA's relative to the EBV B95-8 genome.

The BamHI restriction sites of the EBV B95-8 genome are given at the bottom of the figure and the respective restriction fragments are designated by upper and lower case letters. The mRNA's of the proteins localized by hybrid-selection to individual BamHI restriction fragments are indicated by numbers and lines. It can be taken from the figure, that the gene of p138 was correlated to the BamA-fragment.

Figure 3: DNA sequence of the leftward reading frame of BamA encoding p138.

The sequence shown is the respective negative strand. The p138 encoding region starts at nucleotide position 182 and ends at nucleotide position 3565. Restriction sites used for cloning of fragments of this coding region are indicated.

Figure 4: Restriction map of the plasmids pUC635 and pUC5130.

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The size of the vector pUC8 is 2.7 kb. The cloning site 3' of the lacUV5  $\beta$ -galactosidase promoter and operator (PO) contains EcoRI(E), BamHI(B), SalI(S), PstI(P), and HindIII(H) site. The  $\beta$ -lactamase gene is indicated by AMP. The 3.0 kb and 3.3 kb XhoI-fragments of the p138 coding region are inserted into the SalI site of pUC8. The insertion is indicated by an open bar. pUC635 contains the 3.0 kb XhoI-fragment in a correct reading frame relative to the  $\beta$ -galactosidase gene, whereas pUC6130 contains the 3.3 kb XhoI-fragment in the opposite orientation.

Figure 5: Expression of the proteins encoded by plasmids pUC635, pUC924, pMF924, and pKK378.

Lane 1: of the immunostained Western-blot shows the proteins isolated from bacteria transformed with pUC8 and induced with IPTG.

Lane 2: proteins of pUC924 transformed bacteria  
Lane 3: proteins of pKK378 transformed bacteria  
Lane 4: proteins of pMF924 transformed bacteria  
Lane 5: proteins of pUC635 transformed bacteria  
The size of the fusion protein was estimated to be 75kD (lane 2), 110 kD (lane 3), 90 kD (lane 4) and 135 kD (lane 5).

Figure 6: Restriction map of the plasmid pUC924.

The size of the vector pUC9 is 2.7 kb. The cloning site 3' of the lacUV5  $\beta$ -galactosidase promoter and operator (PO) contains an EcoRI(E), BamHI(B), SalI(S), PstI(P), and HindIII(H) site. The  $\beta$ -lactamase gene is indicated by AMP.

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1 The 2.6 kb BglII/EcoRI-fragment of pUC635 is inserted  
between the BamHI and EcoRI sites. The abbreviation of  
BglII is "Bg".

5 Figure 7: Restriction map of the plasmid pMF924.

The 2.6 kb BamHI/HindIII-fragment of pUC924 was inserted  
into the BamHI and HindIII restriction sites of pEA305  
which are located 3' of the hybrid trp-lac promoter  
10 (tac) and the aminoterminal coding region of  $c_1$  ( $\lambda$ -repressor).

Figure 8: Restriction map of the plasmid pKK378.

15 The 3.3 kb BamHI/HindIII-fragment of pUC6130 was inserted  
into the HindIII-site of the vector pKK240-11 using a  
345 bp BamHI/HindIII-fragment of pBR322 as a linker (which  
is indicated by a heavy black line). Thus the p138 en-  
coding fragment is located 3' of the hybrid trp-lac  
promoter (tac) and an ATG start codon.

20

Figure 9: Secondary structures of p138.

25 Computer plot of Chou-Fasman calculation of the p138  
secondary structure. Additionally, the hydrophobic  
(closed circles) and hydrophilic (open circles) regions  
are indicated.

30 Antigenic sites can be expected in hydrophilic regions  
with a  $\beta$ -turn. This situation is given in the p600 region  
and at the carboxy-terminus of the protein.

The regions subcloned into the vectors pUC8 and pUR288  
are indicated.

35

Figure 10: Expression products of bacteria transformed with the plasmid pUR carrying PstI fragments of p138.

- A. A coomassie brilliant blue stained SDS polyacrylamide slab gel analysis of lysates of IPTG induced bacteria carrying the various plasmids is shown. Fusion proteins with molecular weights between 120 and 150 kd are indicated with a closed circle. Track M molecular weight markers tracks pUR400-pUR540 lysates of bacteria carrying plasmids containing the regions of p138 as shown in Fig. 3.
- B. An enzyme-linked immunoassay of proteins transferred from a gel (similar to that shown in panel A) onto nitrocellulose paper (Western blot) is shown. In this assay a pool of high titered antiserum was used and after washing, the bound immunoglobulins were visualized by sequential reaction with peroxidase coupled to antibodies against human IgG and diaminobenzidine. Only fusion proteins from bacteria containing pUR600 and pUR540 show specific reactions. Plasmid pUC635 (as a positive control) contains almost the whole of p138 coding region, however the protein is unstable and is rapidly degraded. pUC8 is the negative control containing the vector plasmid free from EBV derived sequences.

Figure 11: Expression product of bacteria transformed with the pUC subclones carrying PstI-fragments of p138.

An enzyme-linked immunoassay of proteins electrophoretically transferred from a gel onto nitrocellulose paper (Western blot) was carried out. In this assay a pool of high titered antiserum was used and after washing, the bound immunoglobulins were visualized by sequential reaction with peroxidase coupled to antibodies against human IgG and diaminobenzidine. The fusion protein from bacteria containing pUCP600 was stably produced and shows a specific antigenic reaction.

Figure 12: Construction scheme for plasmid pUCARG1140 encoding both antigenic sites found by expression as  $\beta$ -gal fusion proteins

- a) The 5'-PstI site in pUC600 was removed by digesting with SstI (20bp upstream) and HindIII followed by the ligation with pUC12-SstI/HindIII. From this plasmid the insert was removed with EcoRI and PstI and ligated into pUC8-EcoRI. An oligonucleotide coding for five arginines and two stop codons was inserted into the resulting plasmid pUC601 as single-stranded DNA between the 3'-PstI site and HindIII (pUCARG601). In a last step the 540bp PstI fragment encoding the second antigenic determinant from the C-terminus of p138 was inserted by digestion with PstI and ligation. The resulting plasmid contained both antigenic sites in frame followed by five arginine-residues. It was designated as pUCARG1140.
- b) Nucleotide sequence of the oligoarginine linker. The lower strand was synthesized and inserted as a single-strand DNA via bridge formation between the sticky ends of PstI and HindIII.

Figure 13: IPTG-induced expression of the plasmids pUC600, pUC601, pUCARG601 and pUCARG1140 with pUC8 as a control

The upper part shows a Coomassie-stained SDS-PAGE. The newly detected proteins are marked by a black dot. The lower part shows the corresponding western blot obtained after immunostaining with serum from NPC patients. In comparison to pUCP600 the EBV-related protein encoded by pUC601 is about 1.5kD smaller due to the lack of 14 aminoacids (6 aminoacids encoded by the pUC-polylinker and 8 from the PstI-SstI fragment). The size of the protein encoded by pUCARG601 is further reduced for about 11kD since the read through into the lacZ region of pUC is inhibited by stop codons present in the inserted oligonucleotide. In pUCARG1140 the size increases to about 42 kD due to the insertion of the 540bp fragment. The protein is stable in bacterial cells.

Figure 14: Distribution and reactivity of the IgG and IgA antibodies of individual NPC-sera against the two epitopes detected in p138.

Lysates of IPTG-induced E.coli cells carrying the indicated plasmids were independently separated on a 12% SDS-PAGE four-times and the proteins were transferred to Nitro-cellulose by Western-blotting. Lanes 1: pUR288 as negative control; lanes 2: pUCARG1140 as a positive control; lanes 3: pUR540; lanes 4: pUR600. Two individual NPC-sera (no. 352 and 354) were incubated with the filters and the bound IgG and IgA antibodies were visualized using peroxidase conjugated anti-human IgG and anti-human IgA rabbit antibodies. The different locations of the proteins in the Western blots, especially of pUCARG1140, result from different electrophoresis times of the SDS-PAGEs.

Whereas in NPC-serum no.352 the main reaction of the IgG and IgA antibodies is directed against the P540 epitope from the C-terminus of p138 (see Fig. 9) in serum no.354 the main part of the anti-p138 antibodies recognizes the P600 epitope (see Fig. 9). This indicates that both antigenic sites are necessary for detecting anti-p138 antibodies in sera.

Figure 15: ELISA test using the protein encoded by plasmid pUCARG1140 as antigen.

Row 1 and 3: EBV-negative sera, row 2: NPC pool serum, row 4-13: individual NPC sera. The dilutions tested are indicated at the bottom; left lane: IgG right lane: IgA.

Figure 16: Purification of proteins carrying oligo-arginine groups at their carboxy-terminus.

- A. Sequence of the oligonucleotide encoding five argine residues and two stop codons. A HindIII-site at the 5'-end and a PstI-site at the 3'-end were generated for the insertion of the oligonucleotide into pUC8.
- B. Purification scheme of insoluble expressed eukaryotic proteins carrying said Arg-linker at their carboxy-terminus.

Fig. 17:

DNA sequence of the leftward reading frame of the Bam L-fragment encoding gp 250/350.

The coding region for the glycoprotein starts at genomic position 92153 and ends at position 89433. The sequence shown is the respective negative strand, beginning with the BamHI site at position 92703. According to the sequence numbering in this figure the gp 350 encoding region is located between position 556 and 3276. A TATAA-box in the region of basepair 520 is marked with ..., the probable poly-adenylation site at position 3290 with +++. The splice donor and splice acceptor sites are indicated by ) (--- for donor and ---) ( for the acceptor site. A hydrophobic region near the carboxy-terminus of the coding region is marked with \*\*\*. Probably this aminoacid sequence serves as an anchor sequence for fixing the protein to the membrane.

Fig. 18:Restriction map and open reading frames of the Bam L-fragment

## A. Restriction map:

The positions of the restriction enzymes Bam HI, EcoRI, HindIII and PstI are indicated relative to the nucleotide positions of the Bam L-fragment.

## B. Open reading frames:

The open reading frames of the Bam L-fragment are indicated as boxes and given for both polarities of the respective DNA sequence.

Fig. 19:Restriction map of the plasmid pUCLP1.9

The size of pUC8 is 2.7 kb. The cloning region 3' of the LacUV5  $\beta$ -galactosidase promoter and operator (PO) contains an EcoRI(E), BamHI(B), Sall(S), PstI(P), and HindIII(H) site. The 1.9 kb subfragment of the Bam L-fragment, indicated by an open bar, was inserted into the PstI site. The reading frame has the same orientation as the lacZ-coding part of pUC8 (indicated by a heavy black line).

1 Fig. 20:Restriction map of plasmid pURLP1.9

5 The vector pUR290 has a length of 5.2 kb and consists  
of the  $\beta$ -lactamase gene ( $AMP^R$ ) and the origin of re-  
plication of pBR322. The  $\beta$ -galactosidase gene is indi-  
cated by a heavy black line, the respective promoter-  
operator region by PO. The restriction enzymes are  
10 abbreviated as follows: BamHI(B), ClaI(C), EcoRI(E),  
HindIII(H), PstI(P), and SalI(S).

The 1.9 kb insert of pUCLP1.9 was introduced between the  
BamHI and the HindIII site.

15 Fig. 21:DNA- and amino acid sequence of the fusion protein encoded  
by plasmid pURLP1.9

20 bp 4 - 3069:  $\beta$ -galactosidase  
bp 3070 - 3072: pUR290 linker (given in low letters)  
bp 3073 - 3088: pUC8 multiple cloning site (BamHI to  
PstI; given in low letters)  
25 bp 3089 - 4985: PstI fragment of gp 350  
bp 4986 - 4994: pUC8 multiple cloning site  
(PstI to HindIII; given in low letters)  
bp 4995 - END: pBR322 sequence.

30 Fig. 22:Expression of the  $\beta$ -gal : gp 350 protein encoded by plasmid pURLP1.9

35 Lane 1 and 2 show a coomassie blue stained PAGE of an  
uninduced (lane 1) and an IPTG induced (lane 2) pURLP1.9  
containing clone.

Since there are a lot of bands with different molecular weights, it seems that the main part of the protein is incompletely synthesized.

Lane 3 shows a peroxidase-DAB stained Western blot with NPC sera. It is demonstrated that all newly expressed proteins are antigenic, except that band according to the size of 116 kD which corresponds to the  $\beta$ -galactosidase.

The bacterial background bands are due to the high content of antibacterial-antibodies in the serum used.

Fig. 23:

Purification of the  $\beta$ -gal : gp 350 fusion protein encoded by plasmid pURLP1.9

A. Coomassie stained gel; B. Western blot, treated with NPC serum

Lane 1: Uninduced culture

Lane 2: IPTG induced culture

Lane 3: Insoluble proteins of the lysed bacteria, dissolved in 8M urea

Lane 4:  $\beta$ -gal : gp 350 protein containing fractions, pooled after Sepharose 2B-Cl chromatography.

Figure 24: Computer-predicted secondary structure of gp350 comprising the relative values of hydrophilicity (dark circles) and hydrophobicity (grey circles). In the scale given only the loop structures can be seen clearly as line turns of 180°.

Figure 25: Expression of gp350-fragments as  $\beta$ -gal fusion proteins.

The coomassie blue stained expression products encoded by plasmids PURLEP600 and pURLXP390 are shown in the upper part (pUR288 as control). In the lower part the same probes are shown after immunostaining for demonstrating their reactivity with EBV-positive sera.

Figure 26: Expression of the proteins encoded by pUCLEP600 and pUCARG1230 and their reactivity against EBV-positive sera with pUC8 as control; upper part: comassie-stained SDS-PAGE, lower part immunostained westernblot

Figure 27: Restriction map of the region coding for gp 250/350

The dark bar indicates the region coding for gp 250/350. Furthermore the restriction enzymes used for subcloning, the splice sites, and the inserts of the recombinant expression plasmids constructed according to examples 13 and 15-17 are shown.

Figure 28: DNA sequence and corresponding aminoacid sequence of EBV-related proteins.

A. Protein p54

Nucleotide sequence and derived aminoacid sequence of protein p54 which is identified in in vitro translation as p47 but correlated with immunoprecipitation with monoclonal antibodies

B. Protein p90

C. Protein p143

D. Protein p150

- 41 -

1 Figure 29: Expression of the  $\beta$ -gal::p150 fusion proteins

IPTG-induced clones indicated on top were separated after lysis in an 10 % SDS-PAGE and the proteins were stained 5 with Coomassie-blue. As a control pUR288 was applied to show the size of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase. All clones produce new proteins larger than the control clone and corresponding to the insert size.

10 Figure 30: Antigenicity of the  $\beta$ -gal::p150 fusion proteins

The same lysates from clones shown in Fig. 29 were transferred to nitrocellulose and EBV-related antigens were visualized by immuno staining (see supra). The clone encoding the N-terminal part reacts strongly. 15

Figure 31: Map of the p150 encoding region

The p150 encoding region is shown as dark bar. The restriction sites used for subcloning and the resulting pUR-clones are also indicated. 20

25

30

35

Best mode of carrying out the inventionExample 1Identification of an antigen suitable for diagnosis of NPC

In order to obtain the desired DNA sequences coding for EBV-related antigens of diagnostic significance the following strategy was developed:

Immunoprecipitation of Epstein-Barr viral proteins with various sera from normal adults, patients with fresh infectious mononucleosis or nasopharyngeal carcinoma was used to identify antigens, which are of relevance for the diagnosis of immune status and characteristic for a particular disease (Figure 1). These antigens have been localized on the Epstein-Barr virus genome by hybrid-selected translation. With the use of sequence data, these genes were subcloned from EBV-DNA and expressed in eucaryotic and prokaryotic cells.

It was shown by immunoprecipitation that EA and VCA are not single antigens but families of antigens that consist of several polypeptides (G.J. Bayliss, H. Wolf, "The regulated expression of Epstein-Barr virus. III. Proteins specified by EBV during the lytic cycle", J. Gen. Virol 56, p. 105 (1981)).

For the immunoprecipitation the EBV-producing, MA-positive cell line P3HR1, the EBV-positive, non-producing Raji cell line and the EBV-negative cell line BJAB were used. When the cells reached a density of about  $10^6$ /ml, they were diluted with an equal volume of fresh medium. For induction of EBV antigens, P3HR1 cultures were treated with 40 ng/ml phorbol-12-myristate-13-acetate (modified from zur Hausen et al (H. zur Hausen, F.J. O'Neill, U.K. Freese, E. Hecker, "Persisting oncogenic herpes virus induced by the tumor promotor TPA", Nature 272, p. 373 (1978)) and 3 mM butyric acid immediately after subculture. For the labelling of the proteins, the cells were collected by low-speed centrifugation and resuspended at a density of  $2 \times 10^6$  cells/ml

- 43. -

1 in methionine-free MEM culture medium containing between  
50 and 100  $\mu$ Ci/ml  $^{35}$ S-methionine. The cells were incubated  
at 37°C/5 % CO<sub>2</sub> for 4 h and subsequently washed with cold  
Hanks' phosphate buffered saline (PBS) and resuspended in  
5 cold IP buffer (1% Triton-X-100, 0.1% SDS; 0.137 M NaCl;  
1 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>; 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>; 10% glycerol; 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 9.0;  
0.01 % NaN<sub>3</sub>; 1 $\mu$ g/ml phenylmethylsulphonyl fluoride) at a  
concentration of  $5 \times 10^6$  cell/ml. Then the cells were dis-  
rupted by sonication and incubated on ice for 60 min. The  
10 extracts clarified by centrifugation at 100,000 x g for  
30 min at 4°C.

15  $^{35}$ S-methionine labelled extracts were immuno-precipitated  
exactly as described (G.J. Bayliss, et al., *supra*).  
The results are shown in Fig. 1.

Antibodies to p138, p105, p90 and p80 are present in each  
of the NPC sera and only in some of the other EBV-infection  
specific sera. In analogy antibodies to p54 (identical  
20 to p58 in G.J. Bayliss et al., *supra*) are significant for  
fresh EBV-infection (infectious mononucleosis) as compared  
to convalescent state. Antibodies to p150, p143, p110  
are also present in convalescent sera of healthy indi-  
viduals and can serve as markers for immunity or, in  
25 connection with IgM specific tests for fresh EBV-infection  
or, in connection with IgA specific tests, for EBV-related  
neoplasia (NPC and BL).

30 The next step was to localize the antigens on the  
EBV genome. Therefore RNA was prepared by lysing the  
EBV-producing cells described above with 4 M guanidine  
isothiocyanate and 0.5 M 2-mercaptoethanol two days after  
induction (J.M. Chirgwin, A.E. Przybyla, R.J. MacDonald,  
W.J. Rutter, "Isolation of biologically active ribonucleic  
35 acid from sources enriched in ribonuclease", *Biochemistry*  
18, p. 5294, (1979)). The lysate was centrifuged for one

1 hour at 20.000 rpm (SW 41, Beckmann) and the supernatant  
layered on top of 2 ml CsCl density 1.8 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. After  
centrifugation for 17 hours at 150.000 g, the RNA pellet  
was extracted with chloroform and precipitated with  
5 ethanol. 100 µg total cellular RNA was hybridized for  
2.5 hours at 52°C in 65 % formamide and 0.4 M NaCl to  
16 µg cloned EBV-DNA, which was sonicated, denatured  
and spotted on small nitrocellulose filters. Bound mRNA  
was eluted by boiling the filters 90 sec in water. The RNA  
10 was translated in vitro with a mRNA dependent rabbit reti-  
culocyte lysate. The translation products were immuno-  
precipitated using 5 µl of a pool of human NPC sera for one  
assay after preincubation with a protein extract from un-  
labelled EBV-negative BJA-B cells as previously des-  
15 cribed (G.J. Bayliss, G. Deby, H. Wolf, "An immunopreci-  
pitation blocking assay for the analysis of EBV induced  
antigens", J. Virol. Methods 7, p. 229 (1983)). The  
immune complexes were bound on protein A-sepharose, washed,  
eluted by boiling the beads in electrophoresis sample  
20 buffer and loaded onto SDS-polyacrylamid gels. This  
procedure allowed mapping of a number of viral proteins  
(Fig. 2) relative to the EBV B95-8 genome. The localization  
of p138, is given in Fig. 2. Using sequence data  
(R. Baer, A.T. Bankier, M.D. Biggin, P.L. Deininger, P.J.  
25 Fawell, T. J. Gibson, G. Hatfull, G.S. Hudson, S.C. Satch-  
well, C. Seguin, P.S. Tuffuel, B. Barrell, "DNA-sequence  
and expression of the B95-8 Epstein-Barr virus genome",  
Nature 310, p. 207 (1984)), appropriate open reading  
30 frames for p138 and p54 were identified (Fig. 2). These  
open reading frames are completely contained in the right  
part of the BamA-fragment at the right end of the viral  
genome.

1 Example 2Cloning of the p138 encoding region

- 5 According to the sequence data of R. Baer et al., (supra),  
there is a large open reading frame contained in the  
BamA-fragment of EBV 395-8 which is suitable for encoding  
p138. The nucleotide sequence, the corresponding aminoacid sequence  
and the respective regulatory elements of the gene of  
10 p138 are given in Fig. 3.

50 µg DNA of the plasmid pBR322-BamA (J. Skare et al., supra) were digested with 50 U XhoI (Boehringer) for 2 h at 37°C in a total volume of 150 µl containing 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 6 mM mercaptoethanol, 6 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9. 30 µl stop buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, 50 mM EDTA, 60 % sucrose, 1 % bromphenol-blue, pH 7.5) were added, the mixture was put onto a preparative 1 % agarose gel in acetate-buffer (0.04 M Tris-acetate, 2 mM EDTA, pH 7.6), and electrophoresed for 16 h  
15 with 40 V at 4°C. As a size marker HindIII digested λ-phage DNA (Boehringer) was used. After staining the gel in Tris-acetate buffer with ethidium bromide (0.5 µg/ml) for  
20 1 h at room temperature (RT), the DNA was visualized by UV-illumination and the bands corresponding to 3.0 and 3.3 kb  
25 were excised (the 3.0 kb XhoI-generated fragment is the desired fragment, the 3.3 kb XhoI-generated fragment is a partial digest product (one XhoI restriction site was not cut)).

- 30 The DNA of the bands was eluted by putting the agarose pieces into dialysis bags, adding 3 volumes of Tris-acetate buffer and electrophoresed for 4 h (100 V, 4°C). Further purification was carried out by a chromatography with Elutip D columns (Schleicher & Schuell) according to the  
35 procedure recommended by the manufacturer, extraction of the contained ethidium bromide with isoamylalcohol and pre-

1 cipitation of the DNA by adding 2.5 volumes ethanol and  
incubating overnight at -20°C. The DNA was collected by  
centrifugation in a Sorvall SS 34 rotor (17.000 rpm, 20  
min) and washed with 70 % ethanol. After lyophilization  
5 the DNA was dissolved in 15 µl TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl,  
1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5).

10 The DNA concentration of the two isolated fragments was  
estimated by electrophoresing 1 µl each in parallel with  
100 ng and 1 µg of pUC8 DNA.

15 SalI digested DNA of the vector pUC8 (deposited with the Deutsche  
Sammlung für Mikroorganismen (DSM), Göttingen, West Germany,  
under the accession number DSM 3420 ) (J. Messing, J. Vieira,  
of double-digest restriction fragments", Gene 19, p. 269  
(1982)) was prepared as described before, except that for  
inhibition of religation of the vector during the following  
ligase reaction the DNA was treated with alkaline phosphatase  
20 (0.5 units (Boehringer), 30 min at 37°C).

25 In the following, the two purified fragments were each  
inserted into the cleaved vector (SalI and XhoI produce  
the same cohesive ends, i.e. -TGCA-). For this purpose  
for each of the fragments a ligation reaction was carried  
out with 300 ng fragment DNA and 100 ng pUC8 DNA in a total  
volume of 20 µl ligase buffer (10 mM Tris, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>,  
6 mM mercaptoethanol, 0.6 mM ATP, pH 7.5) containing  
1U T4-DNA ligase (Boehringer). After 20 h at 14°C, 80 µl  
30 TE buffer and 200 µl competent E.coli JM83 cells (ATCC 35607) (J. Vieira,  
J. Messing, "The pUC plasmids, an M13mp7-derived system  
for insertion mutagenesis and sequencing with synthetic  
universal primers", Gene 19, p. 259 (1982)) were added.  
The transformation was done according to the calcium  
35 chloride procedure (M. Mandel, A. Higa, "Calcium dependent  
bacteriophage DNA infection", J. Mol. Biol. 53, p. 154  
(1970)). Then the cells were mixed with 1.5 ml L-broth

(5 g yeast extract, 10 g tryptone, 5 g NaCl) incubated 1.5 h at 37°C, and finally plated on L-broth agar-plates (1.5 %) supplemented with 50 µg/ml Ampicillin (Sigma) and 40 µg/ml X-gal (Boehringer). During this incubation bacteria carrying religated pUC8 molecules yield blue colonies and those which carry recombinant plasmids yield white colonies.

For identification of clones that carry the desired recombinant plasmid, twelve white colonies were picked and grown overnight at 37°C in L-broth. Aliquots of DNA-preparations according to H.C. Birnboim and J. Doly ("A rapid alkaline extraction procedure for screening recombinant plasmid DNA", Nucl. Acids Res. 7, p. 1513 (1979)) were digested by BamHI and HindIII and electrophoresed on an agarose gel as described before. Furthermore, for demonstrating the orientation of the integrated fragment, a digest was carried out with BamHI and BglII. Finally the 3.3 kb was checked by a XhoI digest.

Plasmid pUC635 carries the 3.0 kb XhoI-subfragment of the BamA-fragment (pBR322 BamA) in the proper orientation and the proper reading frame relative to the lac UV5 promoter and is used for the expression of nearly the whole p 138 (Fig. 4). The fusion protein encoded by pUC635 is composed of 12 amino acids of the β-galactosidase amino terminus, about 1020 amino acids of p138, 60 amino acids of the carboxy terminal part of the β-galactosidase and another 29 amino acids of a pBR322 encoded region. Plasmid pUC6130 carries the 3.3 kb fragment in the opposite orientation (Fig. 4). Since the strain E.coli K12 JM83 is not a β-galactosidase repressor overproducer, the fusion protein is constitutively expressed. Therefore the plasmid pUC635 was introduced into the β-galactosidase repressor overproducer strain E.coli K12 BMH71-18 (DSM 3413) (U. Rüther, B. Müller-Hill, "Easy identification of cDNA clones", EMBO Journal 10, p. 1791

(1983)). Instead of strain E. coli K12 MBH71-18 strain (DSM 3423) E.coli K12 JM109/can also be used (without essential alteration of the experimental procedure).

Besides pUC635 three other plasmids were constructed:pUC924, pMF924 and pKK378 (Figures 6 to 8).

The insert of pKK378 starts at the same XhoI-site and continues up to the third XhoI-site located 250bp 3' of the stop codon. This fragment of 3.3kb was generated by an incomplete digest and inserted behind the tac-promotor and the start codon of pKK240-11 (F.Amann et al., supra). The expression product contains only two bacterial amino acids and its size is smaller then the size of the expression product of pUC635 because the bacterial lacZ part is missing.

pUC924 contains the fragment from the Bgl II-site to the (DSM 3421) third Xho I site. pUC97 was used as vector. Since the size of the insert is smaller than in pUC635 and since the stop codon from p138 is used, the molecular weight of the expression product is expected to be smaller than in pUC635 and pKK378.

The plasmid pMF924 was constructed from pEA305 (E. Amann et al., supra) and the same BglIII-XhoI fragment as in pUC924. pEA305 has a tac-promotor followed by the N-terminal part of the C1repressor, the resulting fusion protein is expected to be 17kd larger than in pUC924.

These constructs were tested for the production of EBV-related antigens by inducing the tac- and lac-promotors with IPTG and separating the proteins on an SDS-PAGE. None or only weak new bands could be detected on Coomassie-blue stained gels in the regions with the expected sizes. But after a transfer of the proteins onto nitrocellulose and immunostaining with a high titered NPC-pool serum and a peroxidase conjugated second anti-IgG antibody new EBV-specific bands were clearly detectable in all constructs. (Fig. 4)

- 1 All expressed proteins display almost the expected size,  
but the yield varied over a wide range. The proteins enco-  
ded by pUC635 and pMF924, seem to be more stably express-  
able than the non-fusion proteins from pUC924 and pKK378.  
5 However, the amount of even the highest expressed protein  
from pUC635 is too low for a large-scale production since  
in the Coomassie-stained gel only a very weak band was  
visible which may be due to the large size of the eukary-  
otic protein.

10

Example 3

- 15 Immunological assay of the proteins encoded by pUC635  
pUC924, pMF924 and pKK378
- The host cells transformed with plasmids pUC635, pUC924,  
pMF924 and pUK378 were cultivated in L-broth supplemented  
with 50 µg/ml Ampicillin to a cell density of  $D_{600}=0.8$ .  
20 Then, for the induction of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase the lactose  
analogon isopropyl- $\beta$ -D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG; Sigma)  
was added (final concentration: 1mM). After a further  
incubation of 1.5 h at 37°C, 1.5 ml of the culture were  
centrifuged. The bacteria were resuspended in 200 µl boiling  
25 mix (2 % SDS, 5 % mercaptoethanol, 3 % sucrose, 50 mM  
Tris-HCl, pH 7.0) and heated for 10 min at 100°C.  
30 20 µl of the resulting protein extract were separated on  
a 12.5 % polyacrylamide gel and finally the proteins were  
visualized by coomassie-blue staining, but since the  
yield of the expression product is very low, an immuno-  
staining was necessary. Therefore the electrophoretically  
separated proteins were transferred to a nitrocellulose  
filter, i.e. a "Western-blot" was prepared (J. Renart,  
35 J. Reiser, G.R. Stark "Transfer of proteins from gels  
to diazobenzyl-methyl-paper and detection with antisera",

- 50 -

- 1 Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 76, p. 3116 (1979), S. Modrow,  
H. Wolf, "Characterization of herpesvirus saimiri and  
herpesvirus atèles induced proteins", in: Latent Herpes  
Infections in Veterinary Medicine, Martinus Nijhoff Publ.,  
5 p 105 (1984)).

The Western-blot was prepared with a current intensity  
of 0.8 A for 3 h in Western-blot buffer (72 g glycine,  
15 g Tris, 1 l methanol, H<sub>2</sub>O dest. ad 5 l). Then the  
10 nitrocellulose was saturated with Cohen buffer for 3 h  
(0.1 % Ficoll 400, 1 % polyvinylpyrrolidone, 1.6 % BSA,  
0.1 % NP40, 0.05 % gelatine, 0.17 M H<sub>3</sub>BO<sub>3</sub>, 28 mM NaOH,  
150 mM NaCl, 6 mM NaN<sub>3</sub>, pH 8.2) and incubated overnight  
with 1:50 diluted high titered EBV specific serum from  
15 NPC-patients. The serum had been preabsorbed to a bacterial-  
protein extract (1 ml/10<sup>9</sup> E. coli cells) to reduce the  
bacterial protein generated background. Afterwards unbound  
IgG was removed by washing the nitrocellulose filter for  
5 h in gelatine buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, 5 mM EDTA, 150 mM  
20 NaCl, 0.25 % gelatine, 0.5 % Triton, 0.2 % SDS, pH 7.5).  
For visualizing the blotted EBV-specific proteins rabbit  
25 anti-human-IgG-antibodies coupled to peroxidase and  
diluted 1:200 in TN buffer (154 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris, pH 7.4)  
was added. After 2 h at RT, unbound rabbit antibodies were  
removed by washing with gelatine buffer as described  
above. Finally the peroxidase reaction was carried out in  
100 ml 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, by adding 50 mg diaminobenzidine (Sigma)  
30 and 40 µl H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and incubating 10 min. at RT. The results of this experiment are shown in Fig. 5.

30

1

Example 4

5 Purification of the  $\beta$ -gal : p138 fusion protein encoded  
by the plasmid pUC635

The clone E.coli K12 JM109 pUC 635 was grown at 37°C in 500 ml L-broth supplemented with Ampicillin as described above until the OD<sub>560</sub> was 0.8. The fusion protein synthesis 10 was induced by IPTG (1 mM) and the incubation was continued for another 2 h. Then the cells were collected by centrifugation for 10 min in a GSA rotor (Sorvall) at 5.000 rpm and they were resuspended in 50 ml 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5. For lysating the cells, EDTA (50 mM final concentration) 15 and lysozyme (2 mg/ml final concentration) were added and this mixture was incubated for 30 min at 37°C. In the following, the cells were sonicated (Labsonic 1510, Braun) twice for 8 min, Triton X-100 was added to a final concentration of 3 % and, after further incubation at 37°C 20 for 30 min, insoluble particles of the suspension were pelleted by centrifugation (SS 34 rotor (Sorvall), 20 min, 10.000 rpm). The resulting pellet was dissolved in 20 ml of an 8 M urea, 10 mM Tris-HCl, 0,5 %  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, pH 7.5, solution and recentrifuged as before.

25

Finally 80 mg of the proteins were subjected to a column chromatography (Sephadex 2B-Cl (Pharmacia), length 80 cm, diameter 3 cm) with 8 M urea, 10 mM Tris, 0.1 %  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, pH 7.5, buffer. 30  $\mu$ l of each of the collected 30 4 ml samples were analyzed in a 15 % PAGE and the fusion protein-containing fractions were pooled.

35

1

Example 5Cloning of p138 subregions coding for antigenic determinants5 identified by computer analysis

In principle in diagnostic tests only the antigenic determinant subregions of the antigenic protein are needed.

Therefore the p138 amino acid sequence was analyzed by a computer programm and the identified subregions of this

10 gene were introduced in suitable vectors. The production of such small proteins has the advantage that these are less vulnerable to rapid changes of antigenicity with decreasing length of the product. Furthermore especially in conjunction with assays for class specific antibodies 15 they will be of diagnostic value.

According to the method of P. Chou and G. Fasman ("Conformational parameters for aminoacids in  $\alpha$ -helical  $\beta$ -sheet and random coil regions calculated from proteins",

20 Biochemistry 13, p. 211 (1974)) the calculation of the appropriate secondary structure of a protein caused by its aminoacid sequence (primary structure) is possible. Superimposed on the suggested structure, the program determines the relative hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity.

25 Both data sets are combined and a computer graphic is drawn that shows  $\alpha$ -helical,  $\beta$ -sheet,  $\beta$ -turning and randomly coiled regions of the secondary structure. Thereby the hydrophilic and hydrophobic regions are shown as open and closed circles, respectively.

30

An example of such computer graphic is shown for the p138 amino acid sequence in Fig. 9.

1

Based on the assumption that antigenic sites are mainly located in hydrophilic  $\beta$ -turns which are located on the surface of the protein, the region between about amino acid 520 and the carboxy-terminus of p138 should be antigenic. The corresponding DNA sequence is represented by a PstI-fragment of pUC635.

Thus pUC635 was cleaved with PstI and all PstI-fragments 10 were isolated and introduced into PstI-cleaved pUC8, the remaining vector fragment with additional 400 bp (up to the first PstI-site of the p138 coding sequence) was religated (all methods as described in example 2).

15 The resulting recombinant plasmids were designated pUC P400, pUC P380, pUC P600, pUC P210, pUC P750, and pUC P540, respectively.

20 The aminoterminal region of the p138 encoding sequence was cloned by digesting the plasmid pBR322-BamA with PstI and HgiAI and inserting said fragment into PstI cleaved pUC9. (J. Messing et al., supra) (methods as described in example 2). The resulting recombinant plasmid is designated pUC HP.

25 With the exception of pUC HP in which translation stops at the 3' end of the insertion, in all subclones orientation and reading frames relative to pUC8 are correct.

Finally the recombinant plasmids were introduced into 30 E. coli K12 JM 109 cells.

1 Example 6Expression of antigenic determinants identified by computer analysis using pUR288 p138 subclones

- 5 Since pUC subclones (example 5) sometimes are not stably expressible in bacteria, because they cannot build up a suitable tertiary structure due to their shortness and therefore can be degraded by proteases to a larger
- 10 extent than complete proteins we constructed recombinant plasmids encoding large fusion proteins using at least a part of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase encoded by pUR288 (DSM 3415) (U. Rither et al., *supra*) by cleaving said PstI-fragment subclones with BamHI and HindIII, isolating the respective fragments and ligating them into BamHI and HindIII
- 15 cleaved pUR288 (all methods as described in example 2).

- The expression was carried out in *E.coli* K12 JM109. The products were analyzed as described in example 3. After coomassie-blue staining of the gel several large
- 20 fusion proteins of different size were detected, however, after preparation of a Western-blot, only the products expressed by pUR600 and pUR540 showed specific reaction with the IgG antibodies mentioned (Fig. 10).
- 25 These results are in good agreement with the computer analysis.

- Additionally the expression of the clones obtained according to example 5 was carried out according to
- 30 example 3. The products, too, were analyzed as described in example 3. From the coomassie-blue stained gel it can be taken that only plasmids pUCP600 and pUCP380 code for a stable fusion protein. The Western-blot shows that only pUCP600 derived fusion protein is antigenic (Fig. 11).
- 35 This fusion protein contains 11 amino acids encoded

- 55 -

1 by the aminoterminal cloning site, a region encoded by  
about 600 bp of p138 and carboxyterminal amino acids of  
the lacZ gene. Thus, the recombinant expression plasmids  
pUR600 and pUR540 as well as pUCP600 can be used for  
5 the production of large and small fusion proteins,  
respectively, containing an antigenic determinant  
of EBV-protein p138.

10

Example 7

Application of the protein encoded by plasmid pUCP600 for the  
stabilization of per se unstable parts of eukaryotic  
proteins

15

By means of the experiments of example 6 it was shown  
that the p138-derived protein parts (regions) are  
unstable with the exception of the protein encoded by plasmid  
pUCP600. The second antigenic region from the C-terminus of,  
20 p138 (P540, see Fig. 9) is not stably expressible using the  
recombinant pUC-vector pUCP540.

The ability of the P600-region of p138 to stabilize  
such a per se unstable expression product is shown in  
this example.

25

For this purpose it was necessary to remove the  
5'-PstI-site of pUCP600 by digesting the plasmid with SstI  
and HindIII (the SstI site is located about 20 bp 3' from  
the first PstI site). The p138-related SstI-HindIII frag-  
30 ment was inserted into SstI/HindIII cleaved pUC12 (DSM3422)  
J. Messing, "New M13 vectors for cloning", in Methods of  
Enzymology Vol. 101, Part C., R. Wu, L. Großmann and  
K. Moldoave (eds.), Acad. Press, New York, 1983, 20-78).

35

- 1 Then the resulting recombinant plasmid was digested with EcoRI and PstI. The obtained 600 bp fragment was inserted into plasmid pUC8. The 5'-PstI site was now replaced by an SstI site
- 5 and thus the reading frame is reconstituted at the 3'- and the 5'-end of the insert (Fig. 12a). The resulting recombinant plasmid pUC601 still expresses a stable product (Fig. 13).
- 10 Between the PstI and HindIII site at the 3'-terminus of the EBV-encoded sequence a synthetic oligonucleotide obtained according to known methods coding in frame for 5 arginine and 2 stop codons was inserted as shown in Fig. 12b). The resulting plasmid pUCARG601 encodes the
- 15 P600 region of p138 fused at its C-terminus to 5 arginine residues.

20 In a last step the PstI fragment encoding the P540 region of p138 was ligated to the PstI fragment encoding the P600 region of p138 after digestion with PstI. The resulting recombinant plasmid pUCARG1140 encodes a stable protein of about 43kd which contains two antigenic sites of p138 fused in frame. In this fusion protein the protein region P600 stabilizes the protein region P540 (Fig. 13). The arginine residues at the carboxyterminus of the expression product may be used for the purification of the resulting fusion protein as described by Sassenfeld and Brewer (supra) (Fig. 16).

30

Example 8Construction of the recombinant plasmid pUCARG680

35 From the plasmid pUCARG1140 a modified version was constructed which lacks 435bp of the p138 encoding region, the C-terminal part of the p600 fragment and the N-terminal part of the p540 fragment. The main antigenic

1 sites predicted by the computer program are still present.  
The plasmid was designated as pUCARG680 and its con-  
struction was achieved by digesting pUCARG1140 with NcoI  
(cleavage site coresponds to bp1841 and bp3243 in  
5 Fig. 3). Since the reading frames in the p600 NcoI site  
and the p540 NcoI site do not fit, the sticky ends were  
removed with S1-Nuclease.  
30  $\mu$ g of pUCARG1140 were digested with NcoI, the 3.3kb  
vector-p138 fragment was separated by gelelectrophoresis  
10 and purified. 5 $\mu$ g of this DNA fragment were digested  
with 100 units S1-Nuclease for 15 min at roomtemperature  
in 100  $\mu$ l containing 33mM Na-acetate, 50 mM NaCl,  
0.03mM ZnSO<sub>4</sub>, pH 4.5. The digest was stopped by phenol  
15 extraction. After precipitation with ethanol the DNA  
was religated with T4-DNA ligase and used to transform  
competent E.coli K12 JM109 cells. The resulting clones  
were screeneded for the appearance of a new protein with  
30kb in size (pUCARG680). The shortened p600/p540 fusion  
protein encoded by pUCARG680 still reacts as an antigen.  
20 The newly constructed recombinant plasmid pUCARG680 was  
deposited with the DSM under the deposition number DSM3408.

Example 9

25

Assay of the antigenicity of the fusion protein encoded  
by plasmid pUCARG1140

30 Immunoblots with the fusion proteins encoded by the  
recombinant plasmids pUCARG1140, pUR540, and pUR600  
(examples 6 and 7) using individual NPC-sera reveal  
that the immunological reactions differ in various  
patients (Fig. 14). In this context it has to be under-  
stood that said plasmids encode fusion proteins contai-  
35 ning the p138 regions P540 + P600, P540, and P600,  
respectively (see Fig. 9).

1

Whereas in NPC serum no.352 the main fraction of the IgG and IgA antibodies is directed to the P540 region, the main fraction in NPC serum no.354 is directed to the 5 P600 region of p138. A representative pool prepared from many sera from NPC patients did not detect additional antigenic sites. The conclusion from this finding is that the antigenic determinants P540 and P600 as encoded by the recombinant plasmids of the present 10 invention are necessary and sufficient to achieve the desired specificity for ELISA tests useful for diagnostic purposes.

Example 10

15

Application of plasmid pUCARG1140 encoded fusion protein for the detection of NPC in ELISA tests

20 The purified fusion protein encoded by pUCARG1140 was coated on micro-titer plates. Ten individual NPC-sera were tested for their IgG and especially for their IgA reactivity. The IgA-anti-EA titer of these sera was previously determined in conventional immunofluorescence tests. The highest titer found was 1:80. In the ELISA 25 test shown in Fig. 15, two EBV-negative, one NPC-serum pool and ten individual NPC-sera were tested up to a dilution 1:10640. The test was performed according to the usual ELISA protocol. Bound antibodies were detected with peroxidase conjugated mouse anti human IgG, i.e. 30 IgA and peroxidase reaction. All NPC sera show a reaction with the coated antigen (up to 1:2560 in IgA) and no background reaction could be observed in the negative controls. This result indicates that the pUCARG1140 encoded expression product is suitable for the diagnosis 35 and early detection of NPC.

1

Example 1TCloning of a subregion of the gene coding for gp 350 in the vector pUC8

5 The coding region of gp 250 and gp 350 was mapped to the Bam L-fragment (J. Skare et al., *supra*) of the EBV B95-8 genome. As both polypeptides share identical regions it was supposed that both proteins are encoded by overlapping reading frames (M. Hummel, D. Thorley-Lawson, E. Kieff, "Epstein-Barr 10 virus DNA fragment encodes messages for the two major envelope glycoproteins (gp 350/300 and gp 220/200)", *J. of Virol.* 49, p. 413 (1984)). The sequence data of Baer et al. (*supra*) revealed a large open reading frame including a donor splice site and an acceptor splice site in said 15 Bam L-fragment of the virus genome (Fig. 17 and 18).

It is assumed that gp 350 is the translation product of the unspliced mRNA transcribed from this region and 20 gp 250 is a product of the corresponding spliced mRNA (Fig. 17). Since both products are found in the viral capsids it is assumed that a differential splicing of said mRNA in a manner comparable with the immunoglobulin heavy chain genes (T. Honjo, "Immunoglobulin genes", 25 *Ann. Rev. of Immunol.* 1, p. 499 (1983)) takes place. During this splicing 630 bp of the mRNA coding for gp 350 are removed to yield the gp 250 coding mRNA (Fig. 17 and 27 (dotted lines)) (R. Baer et al., *supra*). 30 Therefore the whole or a part of the reading frame of gp 350 was cloned for finally isolating and producing a gp 350 related product. It should be kept in mind, that not only gp 250 but also gp 350 are highly glycosylated 35 proteins. In contrast, the proteins produced by expression of the recombinant DNA molecules according to the present

1 invention differ from the respective viral proteins  
normally occurring in nature. If expression is carried  
out in prokaryotes unmodified proteins are obtained  
whereas expression in eukaryotes gives proteins with  
5 different patterns of glycosylation or else modifications  
as compared to the natural product.

10 The Bam L-fragment was introduced in pBR322, and E. coli  
K 12 HB 101 was transformed with the recombinant plasmid  
obtained. (J. Skare, et al., *supra*)

Instead of the host E.coli K12 HB101 the host bacteria  
used in the present invention can also be used.

15 The contents of the publications of M. Hummel et al. (*supra*),  
J. R. North et al. (J. R. North, A. J. Morgan, J. L.  
Thompson, M. A. Epstein, "Purified Epstein-Barr virus  
M<sub>r</sub> 340.000 glycoprotein induces potent virus-neutralizing  
antibodies when incorporated in liposomes", Proc. Natl.  
20 Acad. Sci. USA 79, p. 7504 (1982)) and D. A. Thorley-  
Lawson and C. A. Pocdry ("Identification and Isolation  
of the Main Component (gp350-gp220) of Epstein-Barr Virus  
Responsible for Generating Neutralizing Antibodies In Vivo",  
J. Virol. 43, p. 730 (1984) do not permit predictions that  
25 subregions of the gp 250/350 encoding sequence are coding  
for sufficiently antigenic and/or immunogenic proteins  
and that these products after selective introduction of  
these subregions can be stably expressed in prokaryotic  
and eukaryotic cells. It is therefore surprising that  
30 completely unmodified or in a different way modified  
gp 250/350 related proteins of the present invention  
are sufficiently active antigens and/or immunogens.  
In particular in previous publications it was not ex-  
35 cluded that minor carbohydrate residues of the protein  
contribute significantly to the antigenic or immunogenic  
potential of this protein.

1 As shown in Fig.17, a 1.9 kb PstI-PstI-fragment of the  
Bam L-fragment (Hummel et al., supra) contains the part  
of the gp 350 coding region beginning at aminoacid  
position 232 and ending at aminoacid position 825.

5

A large scale preparation of the pBR 322-BamL plasmid DNA  
was done according to the method published by H.C. Birn-  
boim and J. Doly ("A rapid alkaline extraction procedure  
for screening recombinant plasmid DNA", Nucl. Acids Res. 7,  
10 p. 1513 (1979)). 50 $\mu$ g of this DNA were digested for 2  
hours at 37°C with 100 units PstI (Boehringer) in 50  
mM NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM DTT, 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5.  
The digestion was stopped by addition of 1/5 vol. 50 mM  
15 EDTA, 60 % sucrose, 2 % bromphenolblue. The resulting  
solution was electrophoretically separated on a 1 %  
agarose gel (Seakem, FMC) in Tris-acetate buffer (0.04 M  
Tris-acetate, 2 mM EDTA, pH 7.6). As a size marker HindIII  
digested  $\lambda$ -phage DNA (Boehringer) was used. After the  
20 electrophoresis at 40 V for 14 hours at room temperature  
(RT), the gel was stained in Tris-acetate buffer containing  
0.5  $\mu$ g/ml ethidium bromide.

25 The DNA bands in the gel were visualized by UV-illuminati-  
tion and the 1.9 kb PstI-PstI fragment was isolated as  
described in example 2.

30 PstI digested DNA of the vector pUC8 was prepared as  
described before, except that for inhibition of religation  
of the vector during the following ligase reaction, the  
DNA was treated with alkaline phosphatase (0.5 units  
(Boehringer), 30 min at 37°C).

35 The concentration of the purified fragments was estimated  
by electrophoresing 1  $\mu$ l each in parallel with 100 ng and  
500 ng of pUC8-DNA (under conditions described above).

1 400 ng of the 1.9 kb PstI-PstI-fragment and 100 ng of the  
PstI digested vector DNA were ligated, E.coli K12 JM109  
was transformed with the ligated plasmid DNA and positive  
clones were identified as described in example 2.

5

The obtained clone was designated E. coli K12 JM109  
pUCLP1.9 and the resulting recombinant plasmid pUCLP1.9,  
respectively.

10

Example 12

Cloning of a subregion of the gene coding for gp 350 in  
the vector pUR290

15 For the expression of a stable product of the gp 350  
subregion said 1.9 kb PstI-PstI-fragment was recloned  
in the vector pUR290 (DSM 3417) (Fig. 20) (U.Rüther et al., infra).  
The resulting recombinant plasmid is coding for a fusion  
protein of an aminoterminal region of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase,  
20 followed by the aminoacids 232 to 825 of gp 350 and  
aminoacids coded by the cloning-site of pUR290 and pBR322  
nucleotide residues. The respective aminoacid se-  
quence is given in figure 21.

25

50  $\mu$ g DNA of the plasmid pUCLP 1.9 were digested with  
100 units BamHI and HindIII and separated on a 1 % agarose  
gel as described above. The resulting 1.9 kb BamHI/HindIII  
fragment that contains only a few more nucleotides than  
the PstI-PstI-fragment originally introduced into pUC8  
30 was separated from the other resulting fragments on a 1 %  
agarose gel (as described above). Finally it was isolated  
from the gel as described above and ligated into BamHI/  
HindIII digested DNA of the vector pUR290 (U. Rüther,  
35 B. Müller-Hill "Easy identification of cDNA clones",  
EMBO Journal 10, p. 1791 (1983)) according to the methods  
described above.

1 The next step was the transformation of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase repressor-protein overproducer strain

5 E. coli K12 JM109 with these recombinant DNA molecules. The transformants were plated and analysed as described above, except that the aliquots of the DNA preparations were digested with BamHI/HindIII and EcoRI.

10 The resulting clone, E. coli K12 JM109 pURLP1.9 carries the plasmid pURLP1.9, that is a recombinant of said BamHI-HindIII 1.9 kb fragment of the plasmid pUCLP1.9 and the vector pUR290 (see Fig. 20).

#### Example 13

##### gp 350 related polypeptides synthesized by E. coli K12 JM109 pURLP1.9

20 In an overnight culture E. coli K12 JM109 pURLP1.9 was grown at 37°C in 5ml L-broth supplemented with 50  $\mu$ g/ml Ampicillin. The culture was then diluted to an optical density at 560 nm( $OD_{560}$ ) of 0.4, and 4 ml of this bacteria suspension were incubated at 37°C until an  $OD_{560}$  of 0.8.

25 The expression of the genetic information carried by plasmid pURLP1.9 was then induced as described in example 3 and finally the proteins were visualized by coomassie-blue staining as described in example 3.

30 In comparison with the control experiment, several new proteins, encoded by the plasmid pURLP1.9 and ranging in size from 116 kD to 200 kD, were detected (Fig. 22). The different size of the expression products may be due to incomplete mRNA synthesis or translation. To prove that the new proteins are EBV-related products, all the 35 electrophoretically separated proteins were transferred to a nitrocellulose filter, i.e. a "Western-blot" was prepared according to the method described in example 3. The results of this experiment are shown in Fig. 22.

1

Example 14Purification of the  $\beta$ -gal : gp 350 fusion protein encoded by the plasmid pURLP1.9

5

The replacement of the natural carboxyterminal amino acid sequence of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase by a gp 350 related amino acid sequence prevents the formation of  $\beta$ -galactosidase tetramers. Furthermore the newly expressed fusion protein is present in a high concentration in the bacterial cell. Therefore the fusion protein precipitates in the cytoplasm of the host cell.

15

According to the method described in example 4 the clone E. coli K12 JM109 pURLP1.9 was used for the production of the corresponding fusion protein.

20

The results of the several stages of this purification procedure are shown in Fig. 23.

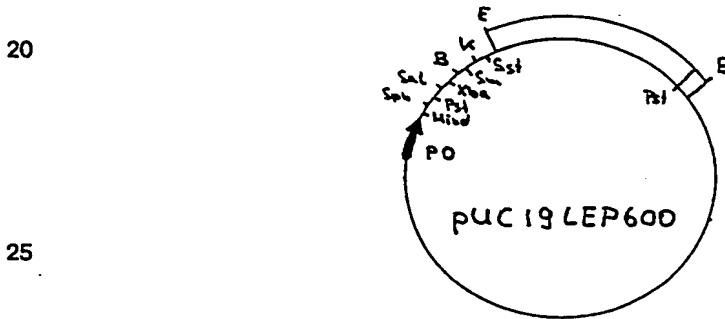
Example 15Expression of selected antigenic epitopes of gp250/350 as  $\beta$ -galactosidase fusionproteins

25

Fig. 24 shows the computer-predicted secondary structure of gp350 together with the relative values of hydrophilic (dark circles) and hydrophobic (grey circles) areas.  $\beta$ -turns or loop structures are indicated as line turns of 180° ( $\alpha$ -helices,  $\beta$ -sheet and coil structures are barely discernable in the scale used). Based on the assumption that antigenic sites are mainly located in  $\beta$ -turns in an hydrophilic environment, which may be exposed to the surface of the protein, the regions at about aminoacid 50 and aminoacid 740 and 800-830, respectively, are expected to represent antigenic epitopes.

1 Subcloning and expression of the N-terminus of gp250/350

5 The EBV BamHI-L fragment which was cloned in pBR322 (see J. Skare et al., *supra*) was digested with EcoRI (restriction sites at positions 650 and 1284 in the sequence given in Fig. 17), the resulting 634 bp fragment was eluted from an agarose gel after electrophoresis and ligated to EcoRI linearised pUC19  
 et al.  
 10 (DSM3425) (Yanisch-Perron / Gene 33, 103-119 (1985)). Then, *E.coli* K12 JM109 was transformed with the ligation products (all steps were carried out as described in Example 2). According to example 2 the recombinant plasmids obtained  
 15 were tested for the orientation of their insert using suitable restriction enzymes. A recombinant plasmid carrying the insert in the opposite orientation of the reading frame relative to the reading frame of the lacZ gene of the pUC19 plasmid was designated as pUC19LEP600 and used for further cloning:



30 pUC19LEP600 was digested with BamHI and PstI (the BamHI site is derived from pUC19, the PstI site corresponds to position 1248 in Fig. 17), the resulting 600bp fragment was inserted into pUR291 (DSM3418) (Rüther, *supra*), previously digested with BamHI and PstI. The resulting recombinant plasmid pURLEP600 displayed the following sequence in its linker region at the C-terminus of the  $\beta$ -galactosidase:

35

1 PUR291 / PUC19 / gp250/350  
 β-gal-TGT CGG GGA TCC CCG GTA CCG GAG CTC GAA TTC CCA TTT----- ACC  
 / pUR291  
 5 TGC AGC CAA GCT TAT CGA TGA

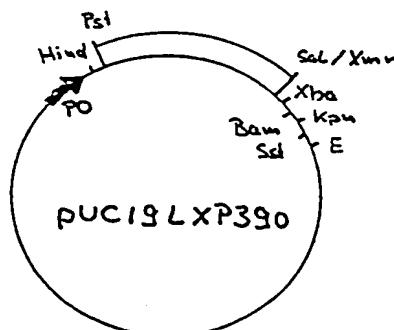
10 The expression of the fusion protein from this recombinant plasmid after IPTG-induction was carried out as described in example 3. The result of this experiment is shown in Fig. 25. From Fig. 25 (lower part) it can be taken that the expression product obtained is recognized as a moderately antigenic protein by a pool of NPC-sera.

15 Subcloning and expression of the C-terminus of gp250/350

20 The region covering the antigenic epitopes near the C-terminus which, according to the computer-directed analysis, also is expected to be antigenic, was isolated by digesting the plasmid pUCLP1.9 (see example 11) with 25 XmnI (restriction site at position 2760 in Fig. 17) and HindIII (restriction site in the region derived from the pUC-plasmid). The purified 386 bp fragment was inserted into pUC19 previously digested with HincII and HindIII. The resulting plasmid which was introduced into E.coli K12 JM109 is pUC19LXP390:

30

35



1 purified according to the method given in example 4. An  
antibody reaction to all three fusion proteins indicates  
a normal immune status. If there is nor or weaker reaction with the  
proteins encoded by pURLEP600 and pURLXP390, but reacti-  
5 vity against pURLP1.9 (which contains the intron se-  
quences, see Fig. 27) a chronic EBV-infection is very  
likely.

IgA antibodies to the membrane protein gp250/350 and  
10 to subfragments thereof are absent in the normal popula-  
tion, but present in 58 % of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma  
patients when measured in a relatively insensitive  
15 immunofluorescence assay. These results are similar to  
the detection rate of IgA antibodies to EBV specific  
early antigens in comparable testsystems. In analogy  
the more sensitive ELISA test brings the detection rate  
close to 100 % with only minimal increase of false posi-  
tive results. Therefore the antigens encoded by the  
20 newly constructed recombinant plasmids pURLEP600,  
pURLXP390, and pURLP1.9, respectively, are valuable  
substances for the initial diagnosis and the control  
of a therapy of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma.

25 Example 17

Expression of the N-terminal gp250/350 fragment in the  
plasmid pUC8

30 The recombinant plasmid covering the N-terminal region  
of gp250/350, pUC19LEP600 (see example 15), was digested  
with BamHI and PstI. The EBV derived fragment was iso-  
lated and ligated into pUC8, previously digested with the  
same enzymes. The sequence in the linker region of the  
35 resulting clone, pUCLEP600, is the following:

1 The insert of pUC19LXP390 was cut out with BamHI and  
HindIII and ligated into pUR288 digested with the same  
enzymes. The resulting recombinant plasmid was intro-  
duced into E.coli K12 JM109 and was designated as  
5 pURLXP390. The sequence in its linker region is as  
follows:

pUR288 / pUC19 / gp350 / pUC8 /  
10-  $\beta$ -gal-TGT CGG GGA TCC TCT AGA GTC AGT TCC CAC-----GTA CTG CAG CCA AGC  
pUR288  
TTA TCG

15 After IPTG-induction a  $\beta$ -galactosidase fusion protein  
was synthesized by said transformed host. In a Western  
blot the expression product shows a high reactivity with  
the NPC sera pool (see Fig. 25, lower part)

20 Example 16

Use of the  $\beta$ -gal::gp250/350 fusion proteins encoded  
by the newly constructed recombinant plasmids in dia-  
gnostic tests

25 Jilg et al. (W.Jilg and H. Wolf, "Diagnostic Significance of  
Antibodies to the Epstein-Barr Virus-Specific Membrane Antigen  
gp250", The Journal of Infectious Diseases, 152, 222-225(1985))  
have shown the validity of gp250  
30 and gp350 as antigens for the determination of the immune  
status to EBV and especially for the diagnosis of chronic  
EBV-infections. Persons showing a normal immune response  
after an EBV-infection possess antibodies against gp250  
and gp350, whereas patients suffering from chronic  
35 EBV-infection show an immune response only to gp350 which  
still contains the additional intron sequence (see Fig.  
27). The serological status of these persons can be  
checked in ELISA tests using the three fusion proteins,

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pUC8	/ pUC19	/ gp350
$\begin{array}{ccccccccccccccccccccc} \text{ATT} & \text{ACG} & \text{AAT} & \text{TCC} & \text{CGG} & \text{GGA} & \text{TCC} & \text{CCG} & \text{GGT} & \text{ACC} & \text{GAG} & \text{CTC} & \text{GAA} & \text{TTC} & \text{CCA} \\ \text{pUC8} \\ \text{TTT-----ACC TGC} & \text{AGC CAA GCT TAT} \end{array}$		

- 10 After induction with IPTG, the fusion protein encoded by pUCLEP600 is quite stable in the bacterial cells and is recognized as an antigen by the NPC sera pool (see Fig. 26). The bacterial fusion part consists of 14 amino-acids at the N-terminus and 9 at the C-terminus. The 15 value of this protein is its applicability in a vaccine, especially when it is fused with the per se unstable second antigenic region from the C-terminus as it was determined with the  $\beta$ -gal fusion proteins (see example 15).
- 20 The inserts of the recombinant expression plasmids and cloning plasmids constructed according to examples 11 and 15 to 17 are summarized in Fig. 27.

Example 18

- 25
- Expression of the N-terminal part of gp250/350 as a p138::gp250/350 fusion protein
- 30 The plasmid pUC19LEP600 (see example 15) was digested with PstI and the resulting 600bp fragment was ligated to the PstI linearised plasmid pUCARG601 (see example 7). The gp350-insert was checked to be in the same orientation as the pUCARG601-reading frame and the resulting recombinant plasmid was designated as pUCARG1230. The 35 sequence in the linker region and at the junction sites of the obtained plasmids is the following:

- 70 -

1

pUC8 / pUC12 / p138 / pUC19

ATG ACC ATG ATT ACG AAT TCG AGC TCT CTG ACC-----ATC CTG CAG GTC GAC  
TCT AGA

/ gp350 / pUCARG601  
GGA TCC CCG GGT ACC GAG CTC GAA TTC CCA TTT-----ACC TGC AGC GTC GTC  
GTC GTC GTT GAT AAC GTT

15 After induction with IPTG, E.coli K12 JM109 carrying  
pUCARG1230 expresses a stable and antigenic protein  
which consists of antigenic regions from two different  
proteins, namely p138 and gp250/350 (see Fig. 26).

20 Furthermore it can be used as antigen in ELISA tests and  
also for vaccination.

Example 19

25 Neutralisation test with sera derived from rabbits  
immunized with gp250/350 antigens

30 Supernatants from B95-8 cells were used to immortalize  
human umbilical cord blood cells (Lymphocyte fraction from  
Ficol/Hyopaque gradient).  $0,5 \times 10^6$  lymphocytes were  
seeded per 0,5 ml microtiter plate well and 50  $\mu$ l of a  
cell-free supernatant of B95-8 cells were added and  
allowed to adsorb for 2 hours at 37°C. After incubation  
the virus-containing medium was removed, cells were  
washed with RPMI1640 medium containing 10 % fetal calf  
35 serum and incubated in 200  $\mu$ l of the same medium at 37°C

1 in a 5 % CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Developing colonies of  
 lymphoblastoid cells were evaluated not sooner than  
 three weeks after the start of the experiment and  
 counted as positive transformation.

5

10 The neutralizing properties of sera were tested by pre-  
 incubating for 1 hour under slight agitation aliquotes  
 of the Epstein-Barr Virus containing B95-8 cell super-  
 natant with 20 µl of test serum including the respective  
 preimmunization serum as control in a replicate test before  
 the supernatant was allowed to adsorb to the umbilical  
 cord blood lymphocytes. After removing the inoculum from  
 the cells after 2 hours the maintenance medium (RPMI1640  
 15 supplemented with 10 % FCS) was supplemented with 5 %  
 of the respective sera under test for neutralizing  
 activity. The following results were obtained:

PBS (control)	Virus	Virus	Virus	Virus	Virus
20 (no virus)	+	+	+	+	+
	EBV nega- tive human se- rum	EBV posi- tive human se- rum pool	rabbit preserum	rabbit immune serum 1	rabbit immune serum 2
25 no colo- nies	colonies	no colo- nies	colonies	no colo- nies	no colonies

1 Example 20Cloning and expression of antigenic fragments of the virus-capsid protein p150

The coding sequence of the diagnostically relevant protein 5 p 150 (Virus capsid antigen VCA (see Example 1, Fig. 28D) was examined for antigenic sites and subcloned for the expression as  $\beta$ -galactosidase fusion proteins. The N-terminal region which is expected to encode an antigenic site was obtained by digestion of the Charon 4A phage EB 69-79

10 (G.N. Buell, D. Reisman, C. Kintner, G. Crouse, and B. Sugden, "Cloning overlapping DNA fragments from the B95-8 strain of Epstein-Barr virus (ATCC CRL 1612) reveals a site of homology to the internal repetition", Journal of Virology 40, 977-982 (1981)) with BamHI and a resulting 1176bp fragment was

15 cloned into the BamHI site of pUC12. From a resulting plasmid with the insertion in the proper orientation a 580bp fragment was excised with XhoI/SalI. The SalI site derives from the pUC12 linker, the XhoI site is located 33bp upstream from the start of p150. This fragment was inserted into pUC8 digested with SalI (SalI and XhoI share the same sticky end sequence). The resulting clones were screened to have the p150 start codon next to the BamHI site. From a proper clone the p150 encoding region was cut out with BamHI and HindIII and cloned into pUR290 digested with BamHI and HindIII

20 (pUR290CXH580). The expression of the  $\beta$ -Gal::p150 fusion protein from this clone is shown in Figure 29. Its ability to react very well with a NPC serum pool can be taken from Figure 30.

25

30 Further, p150:: $\beta$ -gal fusion constructs were obtained accordingly. For example the subclones pUR290DBX320, pUR292DBB180, pUR290DTT 700, pURDTT740, pUR290DTP680, pUR288DPP320 which are indicated in Figure 31. From the designation of the subclones, the vector used can be

35 taken, e.g. for the construction of subclone pUR290DBX320 the vector pUR290 was used.

From Figure 30 the restriction enzyme sites used for subcloning can also be taken. All clones with the exception of pURDBB180 were constructed by subcloning the desired fragments into pUC8 or pUC12 (see supra) to obtain BamHI and HindIII sites suitable for the cloning to pUR vectors (see supra). pUR292DBB180 was derived by insertion of the 180bp BglII-BglII fragment (see Fig.31) into pUR292 linearized with BamHI. Figures 29 and 30 show their expression and antigenicity.

The  $\beta$ -gal::p150 fusion protein encoded by pUR290CXH580 and purified according to example 4 reacts in the ELISA test as an EBV specific antigen indicating its applicability in diagnosis. Stable expression

was also obtained with the N-terminal fragment of p150 by inserting the 580bp fragment (used for the construction of pUR290CSH580) into pUC18<sup>(DSM 3424)</sup> using the BamHI and HindIII site. The resulting clone pUC18CXH580 expresses a stable and antigenic protein of about 25kD in size.

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The following deposited plasmids, host bacteria and cell lines were used for the purpose of the present invention. The deposition was affected according to the Budapest treaty

<u>m.o.</u>	<u>depository</u>	<u>deposition number</u>
B 95.8	ATCC	CRL 1612
E.coli K12 JM83	ATCC	35607
E.coli K12 BMH71-18	DSM	3413
E.coli K12 JM109	DSM	3423
pUC8	DSM	3420
pUC9	DSM	3421
pUC12	DSM	3422
pUC19	DSM	3425
pUR288	DSM	3415
pUR290	DSM	3417
pUR291	DSM	3418
pUCARG680	DSM	3408
pUC18	DSM	3424

While we have hereinbefore presented a number of embodiments of this invention, it is apparent that our constructions can be altered to provide other embodiments which utilize DNA sequences of the EBV genome coding for EBV-related antigens and for producing recombinant DNA molecules. It is obvious to those skilled in the art that other DNA sequences may also be used, which are related to said DNA sequences and which may be derived from other EBV serotypes. The EBV is easily obtainable from known natural sources, e. g. from the saliva of infected patients.

It is obvious that for obtaining biologically comparable results other suitable vector/host systems can be used. The invention is not limited to host/vector systems presently available.

1    Claims:

- 5    1. A DNA sequence of the EBV-genome, characterized in that it corresponds to at least a part of an EBV-related antigenic protein having an aminoacid sequence as shown in Figures 3, 17, and 28.
- 10    2. A DNA sequence according to claim 1, characterized in that it corresponds to at least a part of protein p150, p143, p138, p110, p105, p90, p80, p54 or gp250/350.
- 15    3. A DNA sequence according to claims 1 or 2, characterized in that it contains additionally the respective regulatory sequences in the 5' and 3' flanks.
- 20    4. A DNA sequence hybridizing to a DNA sequence according to anyone of claims 1 to 3 from whatever source obtained including natural, synthetic or semisynthetic sources, which is related by mutations, including nucleotide substitutions, nucleotide deletions, nucleotide insertions and inversions of nucleotide stretches to a DNA sequence according to claims 1 to 3 and which encodes at least a part of a protein according to claim 1.
- 25    5. A DNA sequence according to claim 2, characterized in that it is inserted in the recombinant plasmid pUC6130, pUC635, pUCP400, pUCP380, pUCP600, pUCP210, pUCP750, pUCP540, pUCHP, pUC924, pMF924, pKK378, pUR600, pUR540, pUCARG680 or pUCARG1140.
- 30    6. A DNA sequence according to claim 2, characterized in that it is inserted in the recombinant plasmid pUCLP1.9, pURLP1.9, pUC19LEP600, pUC19LXP390, pURLXP390, pUCARG1230, pUCLEP600, pUCLXP390 and pURLEP600.

- 1 7. A DNA sequence according to claim 2, characterized  
in that it is inserted in the recombinant plasmid  
pUR290CXH580, pUR290DBX320, pUR292DBB180, pUR290DTT700,  
pURDTT740, pUR290DTP680 or pUR288DPP320.
- 5
- 8 . A DNA sequence characterized in that it contains in  
reading frame at least two regions of a DNA sequence  
of anyone of claims 1 to 4 derived from a single  
EBV genome.
- 10
9. A DNA sequence according to claim 8 , characterized  
in that it contains in reading frame at least two  
regions of a DNA sequence of anyone of claims 1 to  
4 derived from different EBV genomes.
- 15
- 10 . A DNA sequence according to anyone of claims 1 to 9 ,  
characterized in that it contains at its 3' end  
three to fifteen arginine codons positioned in the  
correct reading frame followed by at least one stop  
codon.
- 20
11. A DNA sequence according to anyone of claims 1 to 6,  
characterized in that it contains at its 5' end  
an oligonucleotide encoding an oligopeptide which serves  
25 in the resulting polypeptide as a cleavage site for a  
sequence specific protease or which is cleavable by  
acid treatment with an acid such as formic acid.
12. A recombinant DNA molecule for cloning, character-  
30 rized in that it contains a DNA sequence according  
to anyone of claims 1 to 11.
- 35
13. A recombinant DNA molecule for expression,  
characterized in that it contains a DNA sequence  
according to anyone of the claims 1 to 11 that  
is operatively linked to an expression control  
sequence.

- 1 14. A recombinant DNA molecule according to claim 13,  
characterized in that the expression control  
sequence is selected from the group of the  
E. coli  $\lambda$ -promoter system, the E. coli lac-system,  
5 the E. coli  $\beta$ -lactamase system, the E. coli  
trp-system, the E. coli lipoprotein promoter,  
yeasts and other eukaryotic expression control  
sequences.
- 10 15. Vector carrying a part of the p138 encoding  
DNA sequence the encoded protein of which stabi-  
lizes in a fusion protein a protein encoded by  
a DNA sequence ligated to its 3'-end and carrying  
15 a DNA sequence encoding three to fifteen arginine  
residues followed by at least one stop codon  
which after insertion of the second DNA sequence is  
positioned at the 3'-end of this second sequence  
in the correct reading frame.
- 20 16. Vector according to claim 15 which is pUCARG601.
17. A host, characterized in that it is transformed  
by at least one recombinant DNA molecule according  
25 to anyone of claims 12 to 14.
- 25 18. A host according to claim 17 selected from the  
group consisting of strains of E. coli, other  
bacteria, yeasts, other fungi, animal and human  
30 cells.
- 30 19. A protein having EBV-related antigenic determinants  
suitable for diagnosis and therapy of EBV-related  
diseases, characterized in that it is encoded by  
35 a DNA sequence according to anyone of claims 1  
to 11.

- 1        20. A polyantigen having at least two EBV-related  
          5        antigenic determinants suitable for diagnosis  
                  and therapy of EBV-related diseases, character-  
                  ized in that it is encoded by a DNA sequence  
                  according to anyone of claims 8 and 9 .
- 10        21. A fusion protein, characterized in that it con-  
                  tains a protein according to claims 19 or 20 .
- 15        22. A diagnostic composition for the detection of  
                  anti-EBV-antibodies, containing at least one  
                  protein according to anyone of claims 19 to 21  
                  in an amount sufficient to bind said anti-EBV-  
                  antibodies in a sample.
- 20        23. A diagnostic composition for the detection of  
                  EBV-related diseases, containing at least one  
                  DNA sequence according to anyone of claims 1 to  
                  11 in an amount sufficient for hybridization  
                  to an EBV-related DNA sequence in a sample.
- 25        24. A pharmaceutical composition containing at least  
                  one protein according to anyone of claims 19  
                  to 21 in an amount sufficient for stimulating  
                  in humans the production of antibodies to EBV  
                  and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or  
                  diluent.
- 30        30        25. A method of preventing EBV infection or therapy  
                  of EBV-related diseases comprising administering  
                  to a human being the pharmaceutical composition  
                  according to claim 24 in an amount sufficient  
                  to induce or to modulate an immunoresponse.
- 35

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**Figure 1:** Autoradiography of an immunoprecipitation of EBV-specific sera derived from patients suffering from mononucleosis and NPC.

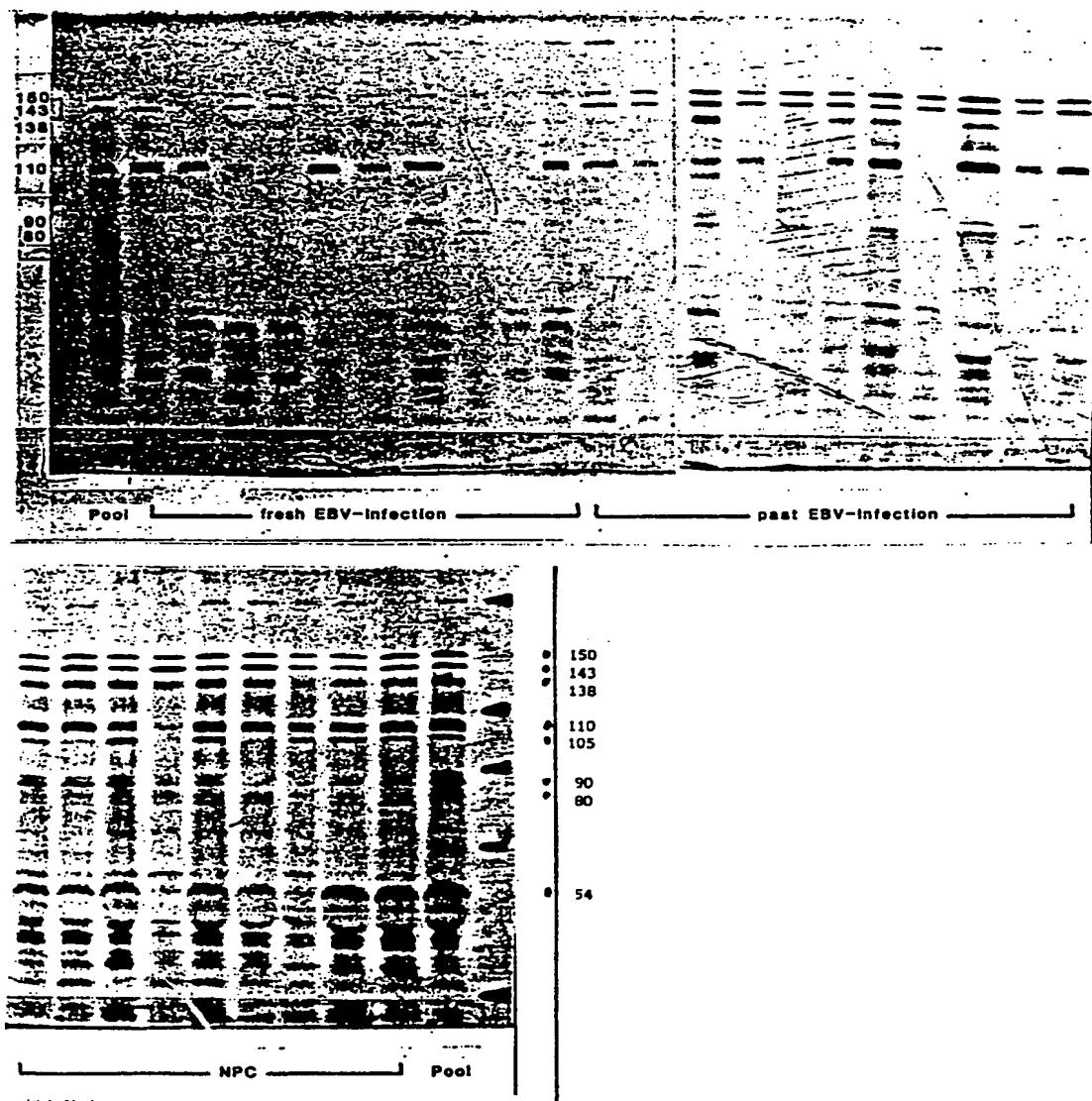
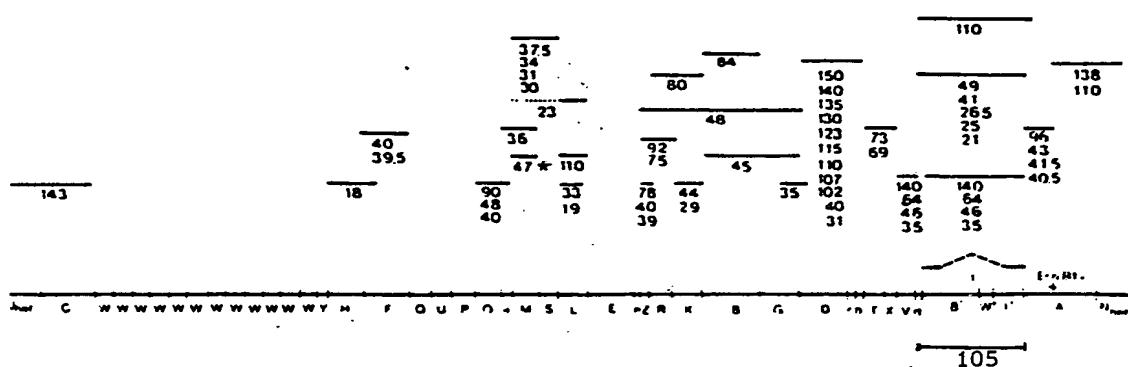


Figure 2

## Mapping of mRNA's relative to the EBV B95-8 genome.



47\* from translation in vitro correlates with  
p54 from in vivo labelling

Figure 3

- 1 -

1 GTTTGCAGGGCTGGGCCATGCCAAGAACGATCGCTGAGACGTACGTCAGTCCCCGIGACGTCGGC 60  
 61 CCTGGCCAGCCCTGACTGACTTCCIGAAAATCTTGTAAATGAAATAAACAGTGGGTGTTGCG 120  
 121 TGATGAGIAAAAGTGTAAACATTTAAIGTGGGACTGGGAGGCCGGGGCGATAACCTGGGCAT 180  
 181 MetGlnGlyAlaGlnIhrSerGluAspAsnLeuGlySerGlnSerGlnProGlyProCy 240  
 241 CGGCTACATCTACTTTACCCCTGGCCACCTACCCCTCTAGGGAGGTGGCCACACTGGG 300  
 301 eGlyTyrIleTyrPheTyrProLeuAlaIhrTyrProLeuArgGluValAlaIhrLeuGly 360  
 361 GACCGGGCTACGCCGGGCCACAGGIGCTGACGGTGGCCCTCCCTGGGCCATCACCGTGGGA 420  
 421 yThrGlyTyrAlaGlyHisArgCysLeuIhrValProLeuLeuCysGlyIleIhrValGly 480  
 481 GCGGGGCTTCAGCATCAAATGTCAGGCTCTGCACAGGAGGCCGACCCCAACTGCGGGCT 540  
 541 uProGlyPheSerIleAsnValLysAlaLeuHisArgArgProAspProAsnCysGlyLe 600  
 601 CCTACGCCCTACCTCCATCACAGGGACATCTACGTTGCTCACAAATGCCATAATGGTTCC 660  
 661 uLeuArgAlaIhrSerIyrHisArgAspIleTyrValPheHisAsnAlaHisMetValPr 720  
 721 XhoI  
 721 CCCCCATCTTGGGGGCCGGGCTCTGAGGCCCTCTGIGGCCGAGACCAGGGAGGTGTTGG 780  
 781 oProIlePheGluGlyProGlyLeuGluAlaLeuCysGlyGluIhrArgGluValPheGly 840  
 841 GTACGACGCCCTACAGCGCCCTACCGAGGGAAAGCTCCAAGCCGGGGACTCTTCCCCGA 900  
 901 yTyrAspAlaIyrSerAlaLeuProArgGluSerSerLysProGlyAspPhePheProGly 960

1 MetGlnGlyAlaGlnIhrSerGluAspAsnLeuGlySerGlnSerGlnProGlyProCy  
 61 eGlyTyrIleTyrPheTyrProLeuAlaIhrTyrProLeuArgGluValAlaIhrLeuGly  
 121 yThrGlyTyrAlaGlyHisArgCysLeuIhrValProLeuLeuCysGlyIleIhrValGly  
 181 GCGGGGCTTCAGCATCAAATGTCAGGCTCTGCACAGGAGGCCGACCCCAACTGCGGGCT  
 241 uProGlyPheSerIleAsnValLysAlaLeuHisArgArgProAspProAsnCysGlyLe  
 301 CCTACGCCCTACCTCCATCACAGGGACATCTACGTTGCTCACAAATGCCATAATGGTTCC  
 361 uLeuArgAlaIhrSerIyrHisArgAspIleTyrValPheHisAsnAlaHisMetValPr  
 421 XhoI  
 481 oProIlePheGluGlyProGlyLeuGluAlaLeuCysGlyGluIhrArgGluValPheGly  
 541 GTACGACGCCCTACAGCGCCCTACCGAGGGAAAGCTCCAAGCCGGGGACTCTTCCCCGA  
 601 yTyrAspAlaIyrSerAlaLeuProArgGluSerSerLysProGlyAspPhePheProGly  
 661 AGGGCTAGATCCCTCTGCCTACCTGGGGCGGTGGCAATAACCGAGGCCTICAAGGGAGCG  
 721 uGlyLeuAspProSerAlaIyrLeuGlyAlaValAlaIleIhrGluAlaPheLysGluAr  
 721 ACTCTACAGCGGAAACCTGGTGGCCATTCCATCGTIAAAAACAGGAGGTAGCGGTGGGCA  
 781 gLeuTyrSerGlyAsnLeuValAlaIleProSerLeuLysGlnGluValAlaValGlyGly  
 841 GTCTGCGAGCGTTAGGGGCTCTACGACAAAGGAGGTGTTCCAGAGGGCGTGGCCCA  
 901 nSerAlaSerValArgValProLeuIyrAspLysGluValPheProGluGlyValProGly  
 960 GCTCCGCCAGTTTACAACCTGGACCTCAGCCGCTGCAAGCACGAGGGCGTGTACACCGG  
 960 nLeuArgGlnPheTyrAsnSerAspLeuSerArgCysMetHisGluAlaLeuIyrThrGly  
 960 PstI  
 960 GAGCCTGCAAGGACCAAGGGCAAAAGGIGGGCCAAAGGIGGGCCCCCTCAAGGAGTTCCAGCCTC

- 2 -

961	nSerLeuGlnAspGlnAlaLysValAlaLysValAlaProIleLysGluPheProAlaSe AACCATCAGTCACCCGGACTCGGGAGCCTAAATGATITGGACAGCGCGCATGCGAGCT rThrIleSerHisProAspSerGlyAlaLeuMetIleValAspSerAlaAlaCysGluLe	1020
1021	GGCGGTGAGCTACGCACCCGCCATGCTGGAGGCCCTCGCACGAGACCCCCGGCCAGCCTCAA uAlaValSerTyrAlaProAlaMetLeuGluAlaSerHisGluThrProAlaSerLeuAs	1080
1081	CTACGACTCGTGGCCCTGTTGCCACTGIGAGGGTCCAGAGGCCGIGTGGCTGCGTT nTyrAspSerIrpProLeuPheAlaAspCysGluGlyProGluAlaArgValAlaAlaLe S3111	1140
1141	ACACCGATATAATGCCAGCCTGGCCCCCACGIGTCCACGCAGAICITITGCCACCAATIC uHisArgTyrAsnAlaSerLeuAlaProHisValSerThrGlnIlePheAlaThrAsnSe	1200
1201	CGTCCTCTACGCTCTGGGGGTCICGAAAGTCAACCGGTCAAGGGCAAGGAGAGGCTCTTAA rValLeuIyrValSerGlyValSerLysSerThrGlyGlnGlyLysGluSerLeuPheAs PstI	1260
1261	CAGTTTCTACATGACCCACGGCCTGGGGACCCCTGCAAGGAGGGGACCTGGGACCCCTGCGG nSerPheIyrMetThrHisGlyLeuGlyThrLeuGlnGluGlyThrIrpAspProCysAr	1320
1321	CCGACCCCTGCTCTCGGGCTGGGGTGGGCCAGACGIGACCGGAACCAACGGTCCGGGAAA gArgProCysPheSerGlyIrpGlyGlyProAspValThrGlyThrAsnGlyProGlyAs	1380
1381	CTACGCTGGAGCACCTGGCTATGCCCTCTTCCTGCCAACCTCTTGCCCCGCTA nTyrAlaValGluHisLeuValTyrAlaAlaSerPheSerProAsnLeuLeuAlaArgTy PstI S311	1440
1441	IGCCTACTACCTGCAGTTTGCCAGGGACAGAAAGAGCTCTTGACCCGGTGCCGGAGAC rAlaTyrTyrLeuGlnPheCysGlnGlyGlnLysSerSerLeuThrProValProGluTh	1500
1501	GGGCAGCTACGTTGGGGGGGCCAGTCCCCTGCTCGCTCTGCGAGGGGCCGGC rGlySerTyrValAlaGlyAlaAlaAlaSerProMetCysSerLeuCysGluGlyArgAl	1560
1561	CCCGGCCGTTGCTTGAACACGGCTCTTCTTCTGGCTGAGGGACCGCTTCCCCCGCTCAT aProAlaValCysLeuAsnThrLeuPhePheArgLeuArgAspArgPheProProValMe	1620
1621	GTCCACGCAGCGGAGGGACCCCTATGTGATCTCGGGGGCCTCGGGCTCCTACAAACGAGAC tSerThrGlnArgArgAspProIyrValIleSerGlyAlaSerGlySerTyrAsnGluTh	1680
1681	GGACTTTTGGCAACTTCTCAACTTCATCGATAAGGAGGGACGACGGCA6CGGGCGGA rAspPheLeuGlyAsnPheLeuAsnPheIleAspLysGluAspAspGlyGlnArgProAs	1740
1741	CGACGAGCCCCGCTACACCTACGGCAGCTGAACCAACCTGCTGGAGCGGCIGTCTCG pAspGluProArgTyrThrTyrIrpGlnLeuAsnGlnAsnLeuLeuGluArgLeuSerAr	1800
1801	GCTGGGCATAGACGCTGAAGGAAAGCTAGAGAAGGGACCCCCATGGCCCGCTGACTITGT gLeuGlyIleAspAlaGluGlyLysLeuGluLysGluProHisGlyProArgAspPheVa	1860

- 3 -

1861	CAAGATGTTCAAGGGACGGGAGGGATGGCGGGGGGACGCCGAAGTGGGICCAGTTAIGRAACAG ILysMetPheLysAspValAspAlaAlaValAspAlaGluValValGlnPheMetAsnSe	1920
1921	CAIGGCCAAAGAAACAACATCACCTACAAGGACCTGGGTCAGAGAGCTGCTACCACGTGATGCA rMetAlaLysAsnAsnIleThrTyrLysAspLeuValLysSerCysTyrHisValMetG1	1980
1981	GTACTCGCAACCCCTTGCAGCCCCGCTGCCCATCTCACCCAGCTGTTTACCG nTyrSerCysAsnProPheAlaGlnProAlaCysProIlePheThrGlnLeuPheTyrAr PstI	2040
2041	CICACTGCTGACCACCTCTGAGGACATCTCCCTGCCCATCTGTAIGTGTGCTAIGAGAAATGA gSerLeuLeuIleLeuGlnAspIleSerLeuProIleCysMetCysTyrGluAsnAs	2100
2101	CAACCCCCGGCTTGGCCAGAGCCCCCCCAGAGTGGCTAAAGGGTCACTACCAGACGCTGIG pAsnProGlyLeuGlyGlnSerProProGluTrpLeuLysGlyHisTyrGlnThrLeuCv	2160
2161	CACCAACTTGGAGGCTGGCCATCGACAAGGGGGTCTCACGGCCAAGGAGGCCAAGGT sThrAsnPheArgSerLeuAlaIleAspLysGlyValLeuThrAlaLysGluAlaLysVa PstI	2220
2221	GGTGCATGGGGAGGCCACCTGCGACCTGCCAGACCTGGACGCGGCCCTGCAAGGGCCGGT lValHisGlyGluProThrCysAspLeuProAspLeuAspAlaAlaLeuGlnGlyArgVa	2280
2281	GTACGGCCGGCGGCCTGCTGCGCATGTCACAGGGTCTGATGCTGTCAGGCCAGGAACAT lTyrGlyArgArgLeuProValArgMetSerLysValLeuMetLeuCysProArgAsnIl	2340
2341	CAAGATCAAGAACAGGGTGGCTTCACGGGGAGAAATGCCGCCCTCCAGAACAGCTCAT eLysIleLysAsnArgValValPheThrGlyGluAsnAlaAlaLeuGlnAsnSerPheIl	2400
2401	CAAGTCCACTACCAGGAGGGAGAACTACATCATCACACGGGCCCTACATGAAATTCCTCAA eLysSerThrThrArgArgGluAsnTyrIleIleAsnGlyProTyrMetLysPheLeuAs	2460
2461	CACCTACCACAAAGACCTTATCCGGACACTAAAGCTCTCAAGCTGTCACCTGTCACAA nThrTyrHisLysThrLeuPheProAspThrLysLeuSerSerLeuTyrLeuTrpHisAs	2520
2521	CTTTCCAGGCGGCCGCTCGGTCCCTGTCAGGGCCAGCGCGGGAGGAGTACTCTGA nPheSerArgArgArgSerValProValProSerGlyAlaSerAlaGluGluTyrSerAs	2580
2581	CTGGCCCTCTTGTGGACGGGGGCTCCGGGCCACGAAGAGAGCAACGTCATAGATGT pLeuAlaLeuPheValAspGlyGlySerArgAlaHisGluGluSerAsnValIleAspVa	2640
2641	GGTGCCTGGCAACCTGGTCACTTACGCCAACGAGGGCTCAACAAACGCCATCCTGAAAGGC lValProGlyAsnLeuValThrTyrAlaLysGlnArgLeuAsnAsnAlaIleLeuAsl	2700
2701	GTGGGGCCAGACCCAGTTCTACATCAGCTGATTCAGGGACTGGTGCCGAGGACGCACTC aCysGlyGlnThrGlnPheTyrIleSerLeuIleGlnGlyLeuValProArgThrGlnSe	2760

- 4 -

- 5 -

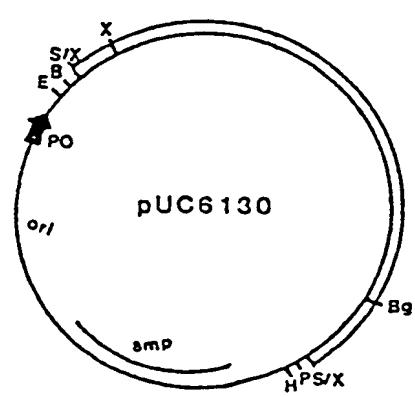
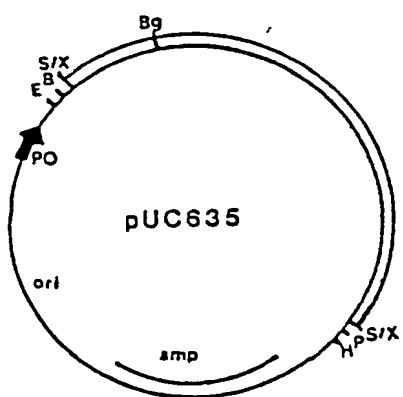
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3721 GAGGCCATCCTCTTCCCCGTTTGAGACGGCAGAAATGACCGTGCAIGCAGCGCCCCGTC 3780
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
          XbaI
3781 CTGGAGCTGGTGACCTGCTAGAGAACTCGAGAGAGGGCTCTGCCGCGCTGCTCGCCCT 3840
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
          KpnI
3841 GGTAGAAAGGG 3851
-----+-----+

```

Figure 4:

Restriction map of the plasmids pUC635 and pUC6130.

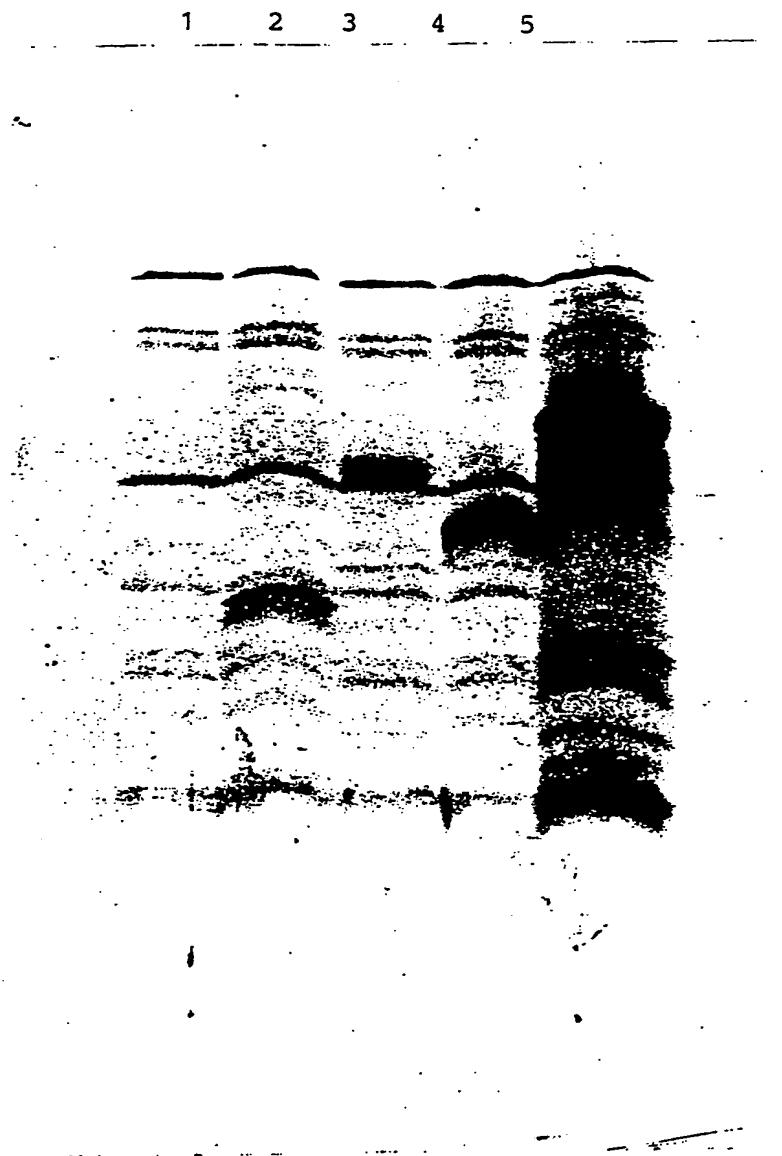


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Figure 5:

Expression of the p138 fusion protein encoded by pUC635,  
pUC924, pMF924, and pKK378



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Figure 6:

Restriction map of the plasmid pUC924

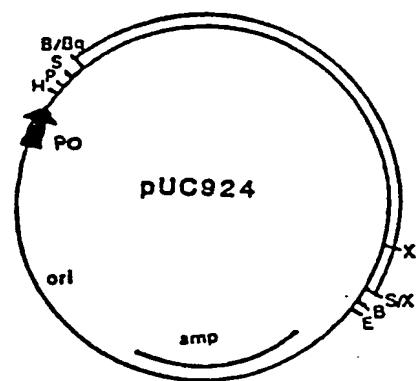


Figure 7:

Restriction map of the plasmid pMF924.

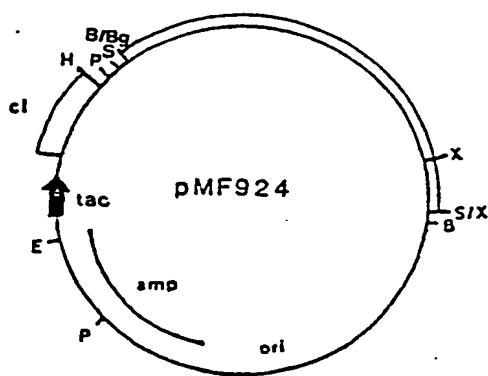


Figure 8:  
Restriction map of the plasmid pKK378.

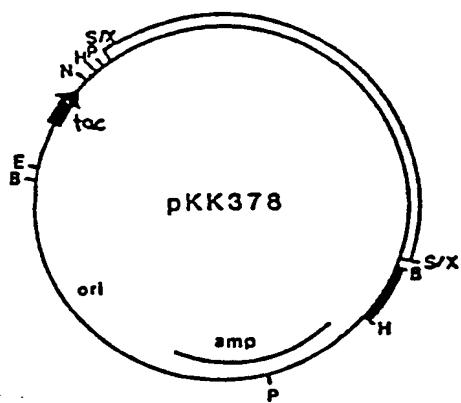


Figure 9:  
Secondary structures of p138.

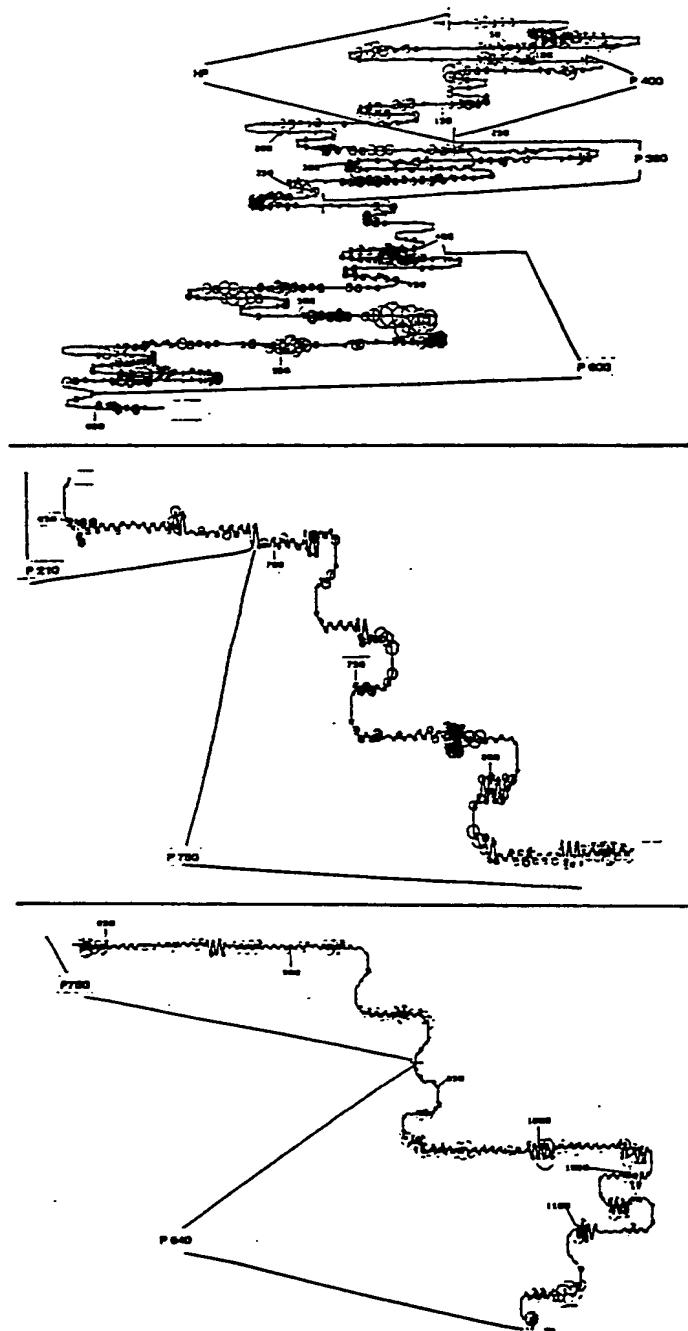


Figure 10:

Expression products of bacteria transformed with the pUR-carrying *PstI* fragments of p138.

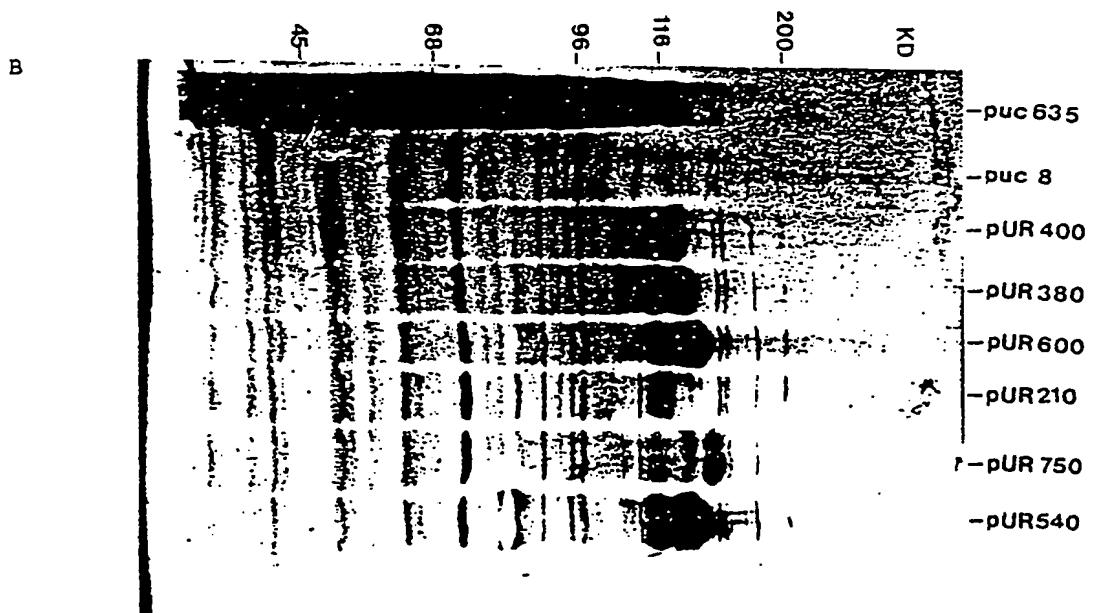
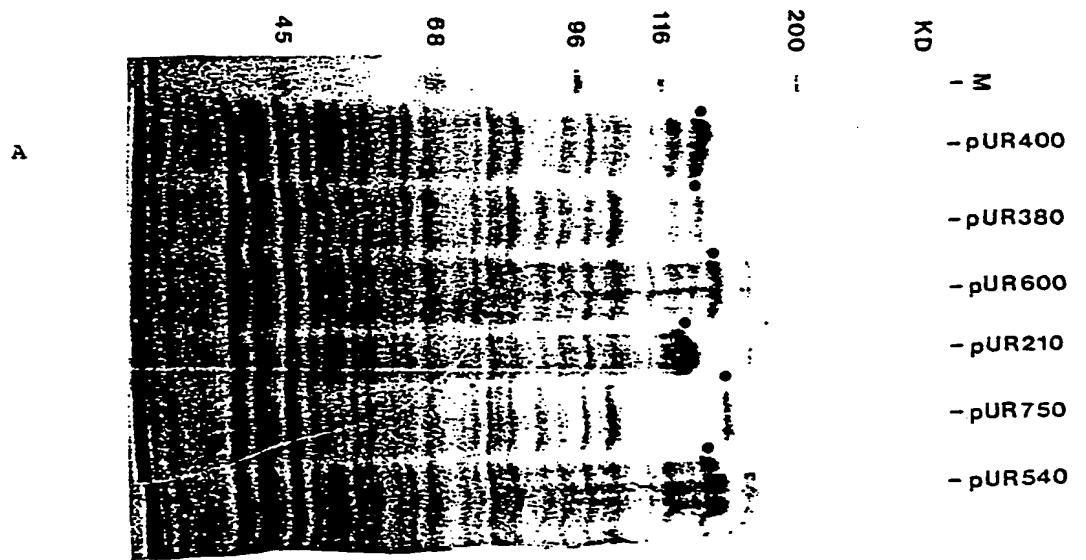
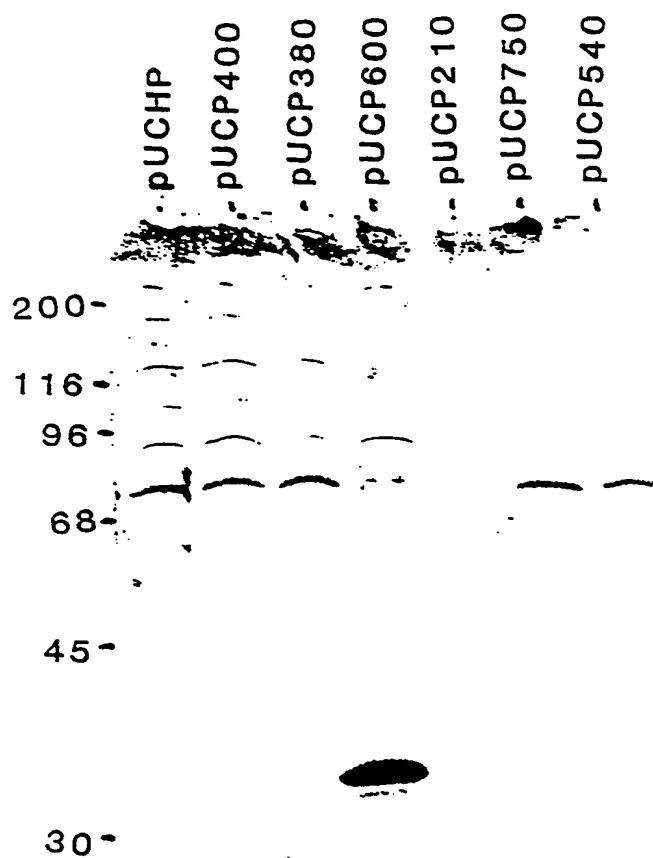


Figure 11:

Expression products of bacteria transformed with the pUC subclones carrying PstI-fragments of p138.



**Figure 12:**  
Construction scheme for pUCARG1140 encoding both antigenic sites found by expression as  $\beta$ -gal fusion proteins

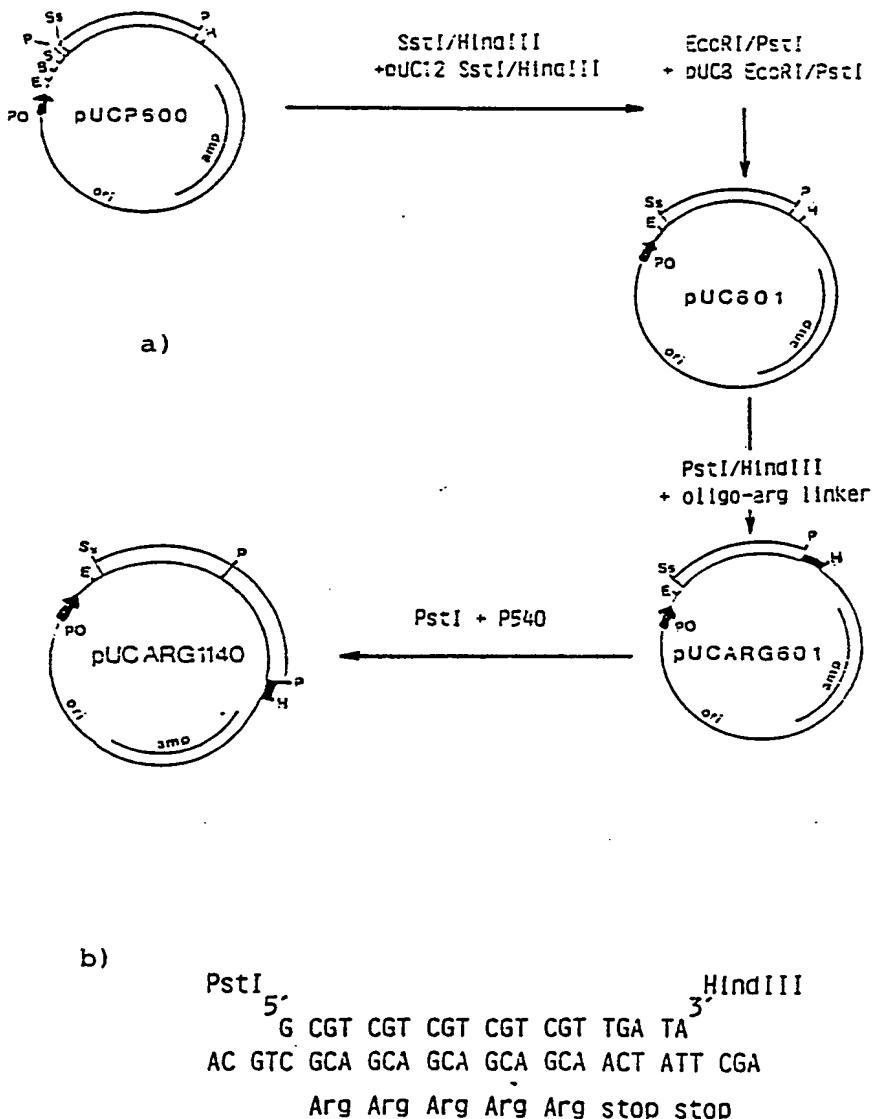


Figure 13:

IPTG-induced expression of the plasmids pUC600, pUC601, pUCARG601 and pUCARG1140 with pUC8 as a control

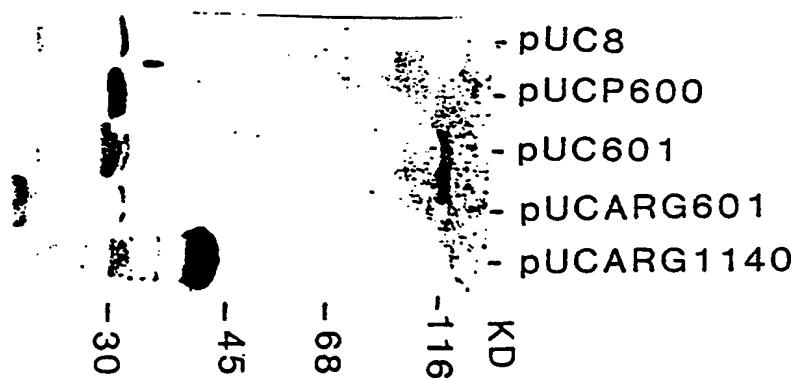
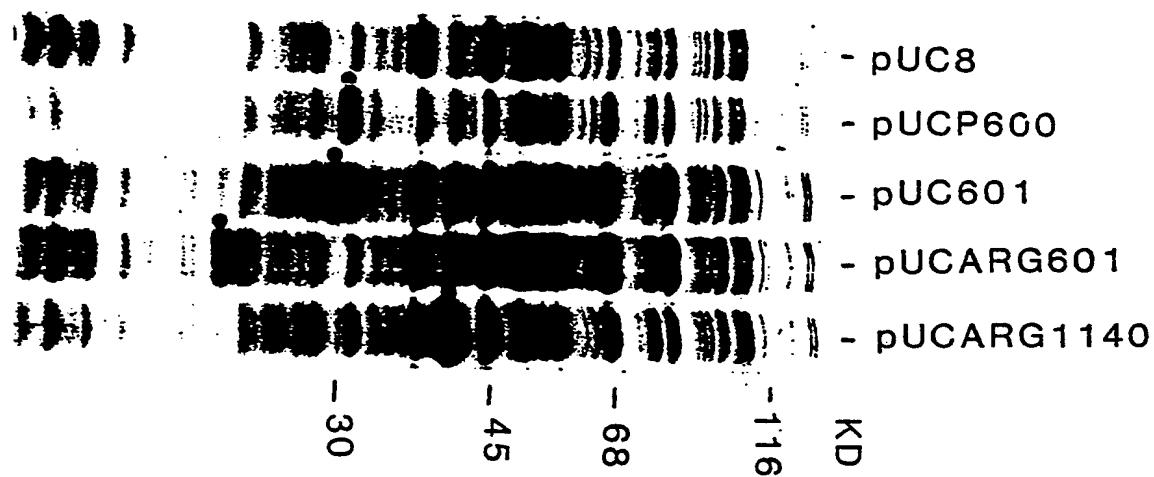
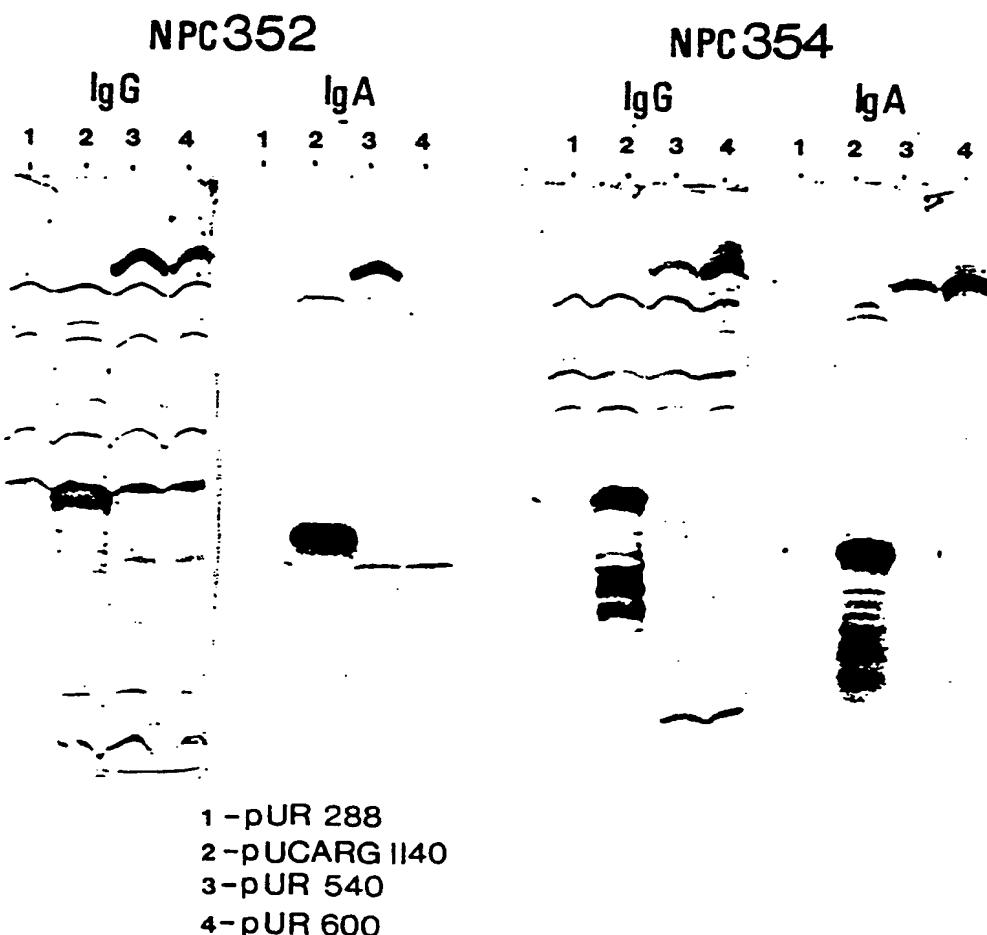


Figure 14:

Distribution and reactivity of the IgG and IgA antibodies of individual NPC-sera against the two epitopes detected in p138



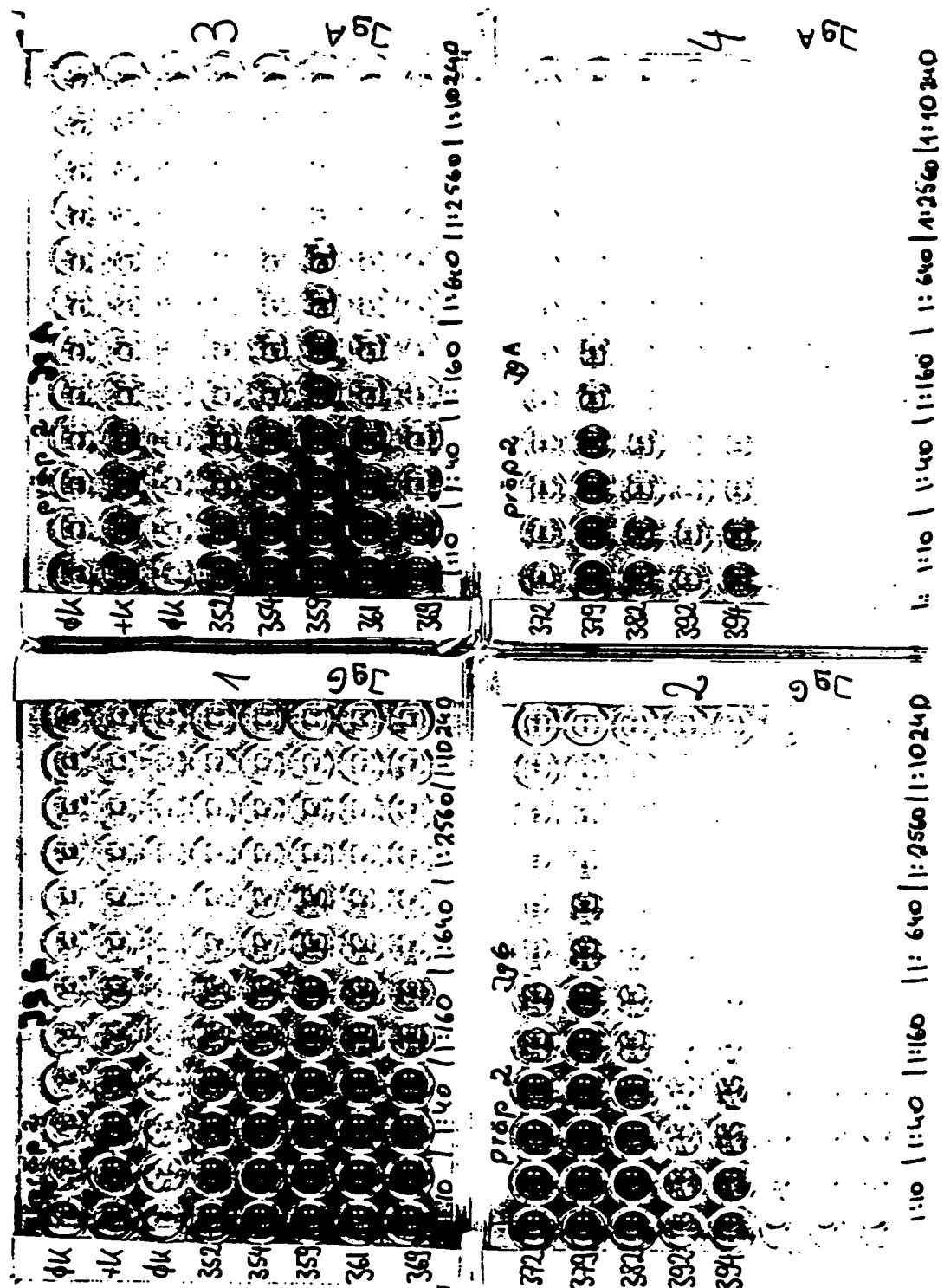
**Figure 15:****ELISA test using the protein encoded by pUCARG1140 as antigen**

Figure 16:

## Purification of proteins carrying oligo-arginine peptides at their carboxy-terminus.

5' G CGT CGT CGT CGT CGT CGT TGA TA 3'  
 AC GTC GCA GCA GCA GCA GCA ACT ATT CGA Arg-linker

**A** Arg Arg Arg Arg Arg Stop Stop

Pst I

### Hind III

### Induction with IPTG

## B Transcription/Translation



### Lysis, Zentrifugation

### Pellet+ Urea

SP Sephadex C-25-Chromatography  
NaCl-Gradient

## Elution of the expression product in high salt

Digest with Carboxypeptidase S



## DEAE-Chromatography

## Elution of the expression product in low salt

Figure 17

1	GGATCCAAAAACTGGCTATGGCTCGTGTGCGATGCGCTGAAACCAACGGCAACAAAT	60
61	TACTTACCTTGTGTTGTGATGGGTAAAAACACACATCACACACTTAGGCCATAGGGA	120
121	TGCTCACCGTAGCCCGGCTCCAATCGCTTAAGAAGTGTCTTAGATCTAGTGGAAACC	180
181	TGCGGAGAATGGCTCTCGCCCAGGGAGATCCGGCTGGGGTGGGAGCATGGGCGTGTG	240
241	GAGCTGACCCACCGGCATCATGATCGACCCGCTTCTCTTCGTACCCCTCTGGGCCG	300
301	CCAGGTGGGCATCTCTGCTCCTTTCTGAGCTGCTATCTGATAACTCTATGAGGACAT	360
361	TTTCCCACATCTCCCGCCGATACCTGTTCTGCACAAACCGAGGTAGATGGGACTTCTT	420
421	CCATGTTGTCATCCAGGGCCGGGGGACCCGGCCGTGCTTGTCCATTTGTCTGCAACAA	480
481	AAGTGTGACTCACCAACACCGCACCCCCCTTGACCTATTAAAGAGGATGCTGCCTAGAA	540
541	ATCGGTGCCAGACAATGGAGGCAGCCTGCTTGTGTCAGTACACCATCCAGAGCCTG MetGluAlaAlaLeuLeuValCysGlnTyrThrIleGinSerLeu	600
601	EcoRI ATCCATCTCACGGGTGAAGATCCTGGTTTTCAATGTTGAGATTCCGGATTCCCATT IleHisLeuThrGlyGluAspProGlyPhePheAsnValGluIleProGluPheProPhe	660
661	TACCCCACATGCAATGTTGCACGGCAGATGTCATGTAACATCAATTTCGATGTCGGG TyrProThrCysAsnValCysThrAlaAspValAsnValThrIleAsnPheAspValGly	720
721	GGCAAAAAGCATCAACTTGATCTTGACTTTGGCCAGCTGACACCCCCATACGAAGGCTGTC GlyLysLysHisGlnLeuAspLeuAspPheGlyGlnLeuThrProHisThrLysAlaVal	780
781	TACCAACCTCGAGGTGCATTTGGTGGCTCAGAAAATGCCACCAATCTTTCTACTGGAG TyrGlnProArgGlyAlaPheGlyGlySerGluAsnAlaThrLeuPheLeuLeuGlu	840
841	HindIII CTCCTTGGTGCAGGGAGATTGGCTCTAACATATGCGGTCTAAGAACGCTCCAATTACGTC LeuLeuGlyAlaGlyGluLeuAlaLeuThrMetArgSerLysLysLeuProIleAsnVal	900
901	ACCACCGGAGAGGAGCAACAAGTAAGCCTGGAATCTGTAGATGTCTACTTCAAGATGTG ThrThrglyGluGluGlnGinvalSerLeuGluSerValAspValTyrPheGlnAspVal	960
961	TTTGGAACCATGTGGTGCACCATGCAGAAATGCAAAACCCCGTGTACCTGATAACCAGAA PheGlyThrMetTrpCysHisHisAlaGluMetGlnAsnProValTyrLeuIleProGlu	1020
1021	ACAGTGCCATACATAAAAGTGGGATAACTGTAATTCTACCAATATAACGGCAGTAGTGAGG	1080

- 2 -

ThrValProTyrIleLysTrpAspAsnCysAsnSerThrAsnIleThrAlaValValArg  
 1081 GCACAGGGGCTGGATGTCACGCTACCCCTAACGTTGCCAACGTCAGCTCAAGACTCGAAT  
 AlaGlnGlyLeuAspValThrLeuProLeuSerLeuProThrSerAlaGlnAspSerAsn 1140  
 1141 TTCAGCGTAAAAACAGAAATGCTCGGTAATGAGATAGATATTGAGTGTATTATGGAGGAT  
 PheSerValLysThrGluMetLeuGlyAsnGluIleAspIleGluCysIleMetGluAsp 1200  
 1201 GGCGAAATTTACAAGTTCTGCCCGGAGACAACAAATTAAACATCACCTGCAGTGGATAC  
 PstI  
 GlyGluIleSerGinValLeuProGlyAspAsnLysPheAsnIleThrCysSerGlyTyr 1260  
 1261 GAGAGCCATGTTCCCAGCGGCCGGATTCTCACATCAACGAGTCCCCTGGCCACCCCAATA  
 EcoRI  
 GluSerHisValProSerGlyGlyIleLeuThrSerThrSerProValAlaThrProIle 1320  
 1321 CCTGGTACAGGGTATGCATACAGCCTCGCTCTGACACCCACGTCCAGTGTACGATTCTT  
 ProGlyThrGlyTyrAlaTyrSerLeuArgLeuThrProArgProValSerArgPheLeu 1380  
 1381 GGCAATAACAGTATCCTGTACGTGTTTACTCTGGGAATGGACCGAAGGCCGAGCGGGGGA  
 GlyAsnAsnSerIleLeuTyrValPheTyrSerGlyAsnGlyProLysAlaSerGlyGly 1440  
 1441 GATTACTGCATTCACTGAAACATTGTGTTCTGTGATGAGATTCCAGCTTCACAGGACATG  
 AspTyrCysIleGlnSerAsnIleValPheSerAspGluIleProAlaSerGlnAspMet 1500  
 1501 CCGACAAACACCAACAGACATCACATATGTGGGTGACAATGCTACCTATTCACTGCCAATG  
 ProThrAsnThrThrAspIleThrTyrValGlyAspAsnAlaThrTyrSerValProMet 1560  
 1561 GTCACCTCTGAGGACGCAAACCTGCCAAATGTTACAGTGAATGCCCTTTGGGCCTGGCCA  
 ValThrSerGluAspAlaAsnSerProAsnValThrValThrAlaPheTrpAlaTropPro 1620  
 1621 AACAAACACTGAAACTGACTTTAACGTTAACGACTCTCACCTCGGGGACACCTTCGGGT  
 AsnAsnThrGluThrAspPheLysCysLysTrpThrLeuThrSerGlyThrProSerGly 1680  
 1681 TGTGAAAATATTCTGGTGCATTGCGAGCAATGGACATTGACATTACTGTCTCGGGT  
 CysGluAsnIleSerGlyAlaPheAlaSerAsnArgThrPheAspIleThrValSerGly 1740  
 1741 CTTGGCACGGCCCCCAAGACACTCATTATCACACGACGGCTACCAATGCCACCAACA  
 LeuGlyThrAlaProLysThrLeuIleIleThrArgThrAlaThrAsnAlaThrThrThr 1800  
 1801 ACCCACAAAGGTTATATTCTCCAAGGCACCCGAGAGCACCACCTCCCTACCTTGAAT  
 ThrHisLysValIlePheSerLysAlaProGluSerThrThrSerProThrLeuAsn 1860  
 1861 ACAACTGGATTGCTGATCCCAATACAACGACAGGTCTACCCAGCTACTCACGTGCCT  
 ThrThrGlyPheAlaAspProAsnThrThrGlyLeuProSerSerThrHisValPro 1920  
 1921 ACCAACCTCACCGCACCTGCAAGCACGGCCCCACTGTATCCACCGCGGATGTCACCAAGC  
 ThrAsnLeuThrAlaProAlaSerThrGlyProThrValSerThrAlaAspValThrSer 1980  
 CCAACACCAGCGGGCACACCGTCAGGCCATCACCGGTGACACCAAGTCCATCTCCATGG

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- 4 -

Figure 18

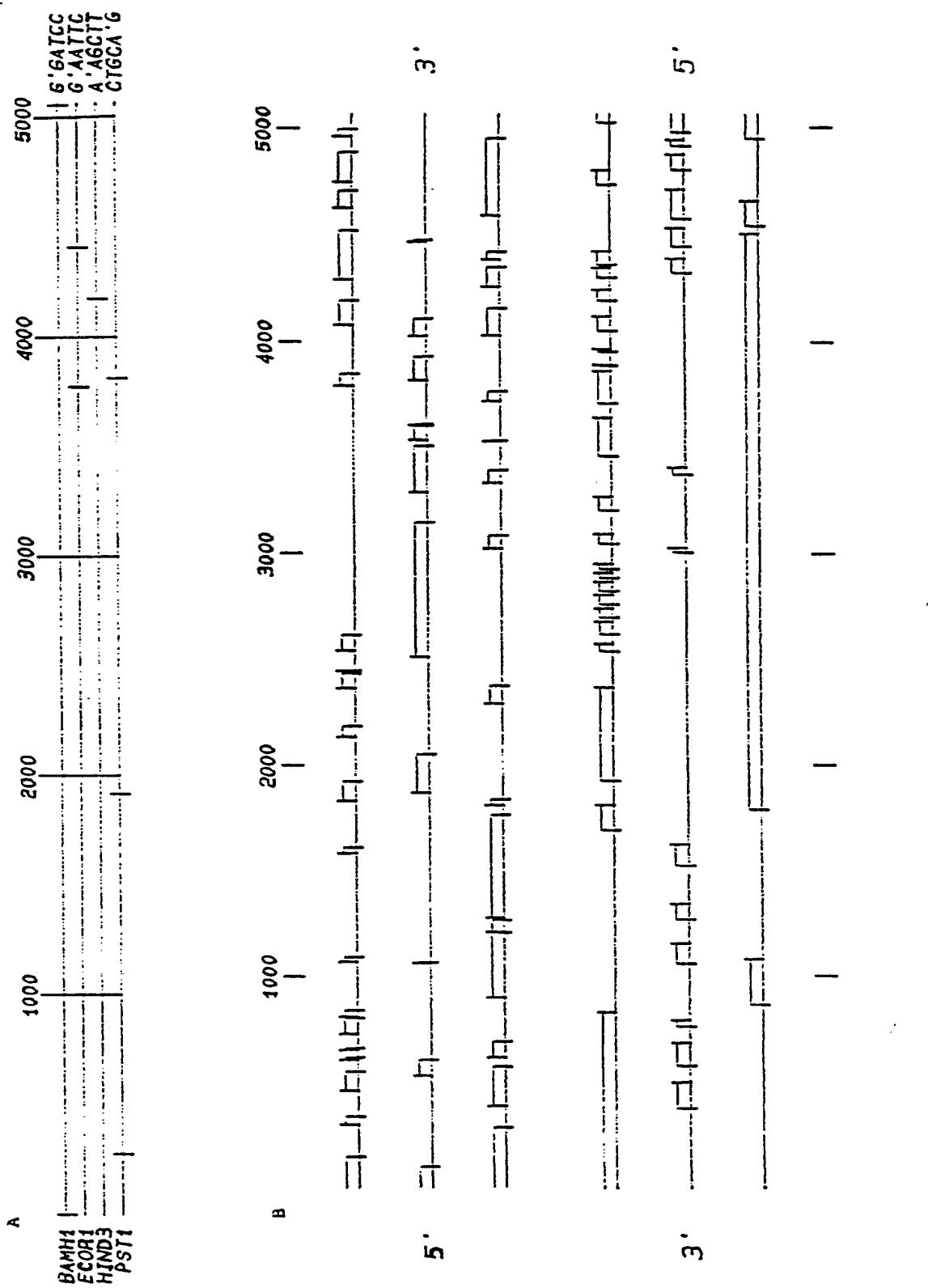


Figure 19

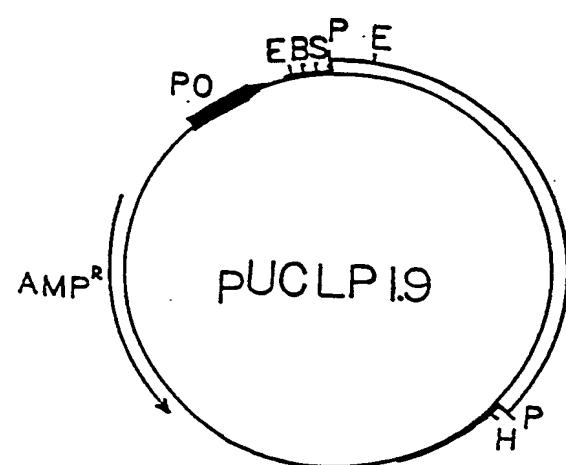


Figure 20

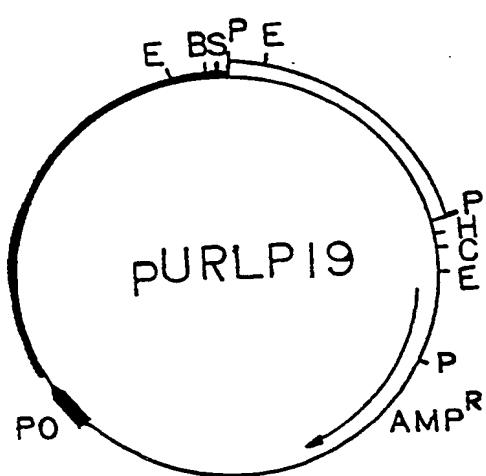


Figure 21

-1-

1	ACCATGATTACGGATTCACTGGCCGTGTTTACAACGTCGTGACTGGGAAAACCCCTGGC MetIleThrAspSerLeuA1aValValLeuGlnArgArgAspTrpGluAsnProGly	60
61	GTTACCCAACCTAATCGCCTTGCAGCACATCCCCCTTCGCCAGCTGGCGTAATAGCGAA ValThrGlnLeuAsnArgLeuA1aA1aHisProProPheA1aSerTrpArgAsnSerGlu	120
121	GAGGCCCGCACCGATGCCCTTCCAAACAGTTGCCAGCCTGAATGGCGAATGGCGCTT GluA1aArgThrAspArgProSerGlnGlnLeuArgSerLeuAsnGlyGluTrpArgPhe	180
181	GCCTGGTTTCCGGCACCAAGAACGGTGCCGGAAAGCTGGCTGGAGTGCAGATCTTCCCTGAG A1aTrpPheProA1aProGluA1aValProGluSerTrpLeuGluCysAspLeuProGlu	240
241	GCCGATACTGTCGTCGCCCCCTCAAACCTGGCAGATGCACGGTTACCGATGCCCATCTAC A1aAspThrValValValProSerAsnTrpGlnMetHisGlyTyrAspA1aProIleTyr	300
301	ACCAACGTAACCTATCCCATTACGGTCAATCCGCCGTTGTTCCCACGGAGAATCCGACG ThrAsnValThrTyrProIleThrValAsnProProPheValProThrGluAsnProThr	360
361	GGTTGTTACTCGCTCACATTAATGTTGATGAAAGCTGGCTACAGGAAGGCCAGACGCCA GlyCysTyrSerLeuThrPheAsnValAspGluSerTrpLeuGlnGluGlyGlnThrArg	420
421	ATTATTTTGATGGCGTTAACCTGGCGTTTACATCTGTGGTCAACGGGCGCTGGGTCGGT IleIlePheAspGlyValAsnSerA1aPheHisLeuTrpCysAsnGlyArgTrpValGly	480
481	TACGGCCAGGACAGTCGTTGCCGTCTGAATTGACCTGAGCCCATTTTACGCCGCCGA TyrGlyGlnAspSerArgLeuProSerGluPheAspLeuSerA1aPheLeuArgA1aGly	540
541	GAAAACGCCCTCGCGGTGATGGTGCTCGCTGGAGGTGACGGCAGTTATCTGAAGATCAG GluAsnArgLeuA1aValMetValLeuArgTrpSerAspGlySerTyrLeuGluAspGln	600
601	GATATGTGGGGATGAGCGGCATTTCCGTGACGTCTCGTTGCTGCATAAACCGACTACA AspMetTrpArgMetSerGlyIlePheArgAspValSerLeuLeuHisProThrThr	660
661	CAAATCAGCGATTCATGTTGCCACTCGCTTAAATGATGATTCAGCCCGCTGTACTG GlnIleSerAspPheHisValA1aThrArgPheAsnAspAspPheSerArgA1aValLeu	720
721	GAGGCTGAAGTCAGATGTGCGCGAGTTGCGTACTACCTACGGGTAACAGTTCTTA GluA1aGluValGlnMetCysGlyGluLeuArgAspTyrLeuArgValThrValSerLeu	780
781	TGCCAGGGTGAAACGCAGGTCGCCAGCGGACCCGCCCTTCGGCGGTGAAATTATCGAT TrpGlnGlyGluThrGlnValA1aSerGlyThrA1aProPheGlyGlyGluIleIleAsp	840
841	GAGCGTGGTGGTTATGCCGATCGCGTCACACTACCGTCTGAACGTCGAAACCCGAAACTG GluArgGlyGlyTyrA1aAspArgValThrLeuArgLeuAsnValGluAsnProLysLeu	900
	TGGAGCGCCGAAATCCCGAATCTCTATCGTGCCTGGTTGAACTGCACACCGCCGACGGC	



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1861	AAACACCAGCAGCAGTTTCCAGTTCCGTTATCCGGCAAACCATCGAAGTGACCAGC LysHisG1nG1nG1nPhePheG1nPheArgLeuSerGlyG1nThrI1eG1uValThrSer	1920
1921	GAATACCTGTTCCGTATAGCGATAACGGAGCTCCTGCACTGGATGGTGGCGCTGGATGGT G1uTyrLeuPheArgHisSerAspAsnG1uLeuLeuHisTrpMetValA1aLeuAspGly	1980
1981	AAGCCGCTGGCAAGCGGTGAAGTGCCTCTGGATGTCGCTCCACAAGGTAAACAGTTGATT LysProLeuA1aSerGlyG1uValProLeuAspValA1aProGinGlyLysG1nLeuI1e	2040
2041	GAACTGCCTGAACTACCGCAGCCGGAGAGCGCCGGGCAACTCTGGCTCACAGTACCGCGTA GluLeuProGluLeuProGinProGluSerA1aGlyG1nLeuTrpLeuThrValArgVal	2100
2101	GTGCAACCGAACCGCACCACATGGTCAGAAGCCGGGACATCAGCGCCCTGGCAGCAGTGG ValG1nProAsnA1aThrA1aTrpSerGluA1aGlyHisI1eSerA1aTrpG1nG1nTrp	2160
2161	CGTCTGGCGAAAACCTCAGTGTGACGCTCCCCGCCGCGTCCCACGCCATCCCGCATCTG ArgLeuA1aGluAsnLeuSerValThrLeuProA1aA1aSerHisA1aI1eProHisLeu	2220
2221	ACCACCAAGCGAAATGGATTTTGATCGAGCTGGGTAAATAAGCGTTGGCAATTAAACCGC ThrThrSerGluMetAspPheCysI1eGluLeuGlyAsnLysArgTrpG1nPheAsnArg	2280
2281	CAGTCAGGCTTCTTCACAGATGTGGATTGGCGATAAAAAAAACTGCTGACGCCGCTG G1nSerGlyPheLeuSerG1nMetTrpI1eGlyAspLysLysG1nLeuLeuThrProLeu	2340
2341	CGCGATCAGTTCACCGCTGCACCGCTGGATAACGACATTGGCGTAAGTGAAGCGACCCGC ArgAspG1nPheThrArgA1aProLeuAspAsnAspI1eGlyValSerG1uA1aThrArg	2400
2401	ATTGACCCCTAACGCCCTGGGTCGAAACGCTGGGAAGGCAGGGCCATTACCGCCGAAAGCA I1eAspProAsnA1aTrpValGluArgTrpLysA1aA1aGlyHisTyrG1nA1aGluA1a	2460
2461	GCGTTGTTGCAGTCACGGCAGATACTACTGCTGATGCCGTGCTGATTACGACCGCTCAC A1aLeuLeuG1nCysThrA1aAspThrLeuA1aAspA1aValLeuI1eThrThrA1aHis	2520
2521	GCGTGGCAGCATCAGGGAAAACCTTATTATCAGCCGGAAAACCTACCGGATTGATGGT A1aTrpG1nHisG1nGlyLysThrLeuPheI1eSerArgLysThrTyrArgI1eAspGly	2580
2581	AGTGGTCAAATGGCGATTACCGTTGATGTTGAAGTGGCGAGCGATACACCGCATCCGGCG SerGlyG1nMetA1aI1eThrValAspValGluValA1aSerAspThrProHisProA1a	2640
2641	CGGATTGGCCTGAACTGCCAGCTGGCGCAGGTAGCAGAGCGGGTAAACTGGCTCGGATTA ArgI1eGlyLeuAsnCysG1nLeuA1aG1nValA1aGluArgValAsnTrpLeuGlyLeu	2700
2701	GGGCCGCAAGAAAATATCCCGACCGCCCTACTGCCGCCTGTTTGACCGCTGGGATCTG GlyProG1nGluAsnTyrProAspArgLeuThrA1aA1aCysPheAspArgTrpAspLeu	2760
2761	CCATTGTCAGACATGTATACCCGTACGTCTTCCCAGCGAAAACGGCTGCGCTCGGG ProLeuSerAspMetTyrThrProTyrValPheProSerGluAsnGlyLeuArgCysGly	2820

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2821	ACGCGCGAATTGAATTATGGCCCACACCGAGTGGCGGGCGACTTCCAGTTCAACATCAGC ThrArgGluLeuAsnTyrGlyProHisGlnTrpArgGlyAspPheGlnPheAsnIleSer	2880
2881	CGCTACAGTCAACAGCACTGATGGAAACCAGCCATCGCCATCTGCTCACCGCGGAAGAA ArgTyrSerGlnGlnGlnLeuMetGluThrSerHisArgHisLeuLeuHisAlaGluGlu	2940
2941	GGCACATGGCTGAATATCGACGGTTCCATATGGGGATTGGTGGCGACCGACTCCTGGAGC GlyThrTrpLeuAsnIleAspGlyPheHisMetGlyIleGlyGlyAspAspSerTrpSer	3000
3001	CCGTCAGTATCGCGGAATTCCAGCTGAGCGCCGGTCGCTACCATTACCAAGTTGGCTGG ProSerValSerAlaGluPheGlnLeuSerAlaGlyArgTyrHisTyrGlnLeuValTrp	3060
3061	TGTCAAAAAGgggatccgtcgaccctgcAGTGGGATACGAGAGCCATGTTCCCAGCGGGCGGA CysG1nLysGlyAspProSerThrCysSerGlyTyrGluSerHisValProSerGlyGly	3120
3121	ATTCTCACATCAACGAGTCCCCTGGCCACCCCAATACCTGGTACAGGGTATGCATAACAGC IleLeuThrSerThrSerProValAlaThrProIleProGlyThrGlyTyrAlaTyrSer	3180
3181	CTGCGTCTGACACCACGTCCAGTGTACCGATTCTGGCAATAACAGTATCCTGTACGTG LeuArgLeuThrProArgProValSerArgPheLeuGlyAsnAsnSerIleLeuTyrVal	3240
3241	TTTTACTCTGGGAATGGACCGAAGGCAGAGCGAGCGGGGGAGATTACTGCATTAGTCCAA PheTyrSerGlyAsnGlyProLysAlaSerGlyGlyAspTyrCysIleGlnSerAsnIle	3300
3301	GTGTTCTCTGATGAGATTCCAGCTTCACAGGACATGCCGACAAACACCACAGACATCACA ValPheSerAspGluIleProAlaSerGlnAspMetProThrAsnThrAspIleThr	3360
3361	TATGTGGGTGACAATGCTACCTATTCACTGGTCACTTCTGAGGACGCAAACACTCG TyrValGlyAspAsnAlaThrTyrSerValProMetValThrSerGluAspAlaAsnSer	3420
3421	CCAAATGTTACAGTGACTGCCCTTGGCCTGCCAAACAAACACTGAAACTGACTTAAAG ProAsnValThrValThrAlaPheTrpAlaTrpProAsnAsnThrGluThrAspPheLys	3480
3481	TGCAAATGGACTCTCACCTCGGGGACACCTTGGGTTGTGAAAATATTCTGGTGCATT CysLysTrpThrLeuThrSerGlyThrProSerGlyCysGluAsnIleSerGlyAlaPhe	3540
3541	GCGAGCAATCGGACATTGACATTACTGTCTCGGGTCTGGCACGGCCCCCAAGACACTC AlaSerAsnArgThrPheAspIleThrValSerGlyLeuGlyThrAlaProLysThrLeu	3600
3601	ATTATCACACGAAACGGCTACCAATGCCACCAACAAACCCACAAGGTTATTCTCCAAG IleIleThrArgThrAlaThrAsnAlaThrThrThrThrHisLysValIlePheSerLys	3660
3661	GCACCCCGAGAGCACCACCTCCCTACCTGAATACAACCTGGATTGCTGATCCCAAT AlaProGluSerThrThrSerProThrLeuAsnThrThrGlyPheAlaAspProAsn	3720
3721	ACAAACGACAGGTCTACCCAGCTACTCACGTGCCCTACCAACCTCACCCGACACCTGCAAGC ACAACGACAGGTCTACCCAGCTACTCACGTGCCCTACCAACCTCACCCGACACCTGCAAGC	3780

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	ThrThrThrGlyLeuProSerSerThrHisValProThrAsnLeuThrAlaProAlaSer	
3781	ACAGGGCCCCACTGTATCCACCGCGGATGTCACCAGCCCCAACACCAGCCGGCACACAGTCA	3840
	ThrGlyProThrValSerThrAlaAspValThrSerProThrProAlaGlyThrThrSer	
3841	GGCGCATCACCGGTGACACCAAGTCCATCTCCATGGGACAACGGCACAGAAAGTAAGGCC	3900
	GlyAlaSerProValThrProSerProSerProTrpAspAsnGlyThrGluSerLysAla	
3901	CCCGACATGACCAGCTCCACCTCACCAAGTGACTACCCCAACCCCCAATGCCACCCAGCCCC	3960
	ProAspMetThrSerSerThrSerProValThrThrProThrProAsnAlaThrSerPro	
3961	ACCCCAGCAGTGACTACCCCAACCCCCAATGCCACCCAGCCCCACCCCAAGCAGTGACTACC	4020
	ThrProAlaValThrThrProThrProAsnAlaThrSerProThrProAlaValThrThr	
4021	CCAACCCCCAAATGCCACCAGCCCCACCTTGGGAAAAACAAGTCCTACCTCAGCAGTGACT	4080
	ProThrProAsnAlaThrSerProThrLeuGlyLysThrSerProThrSerAlaValThr	
4081	ACCCCAACCCCCAAATGCCACCCAGCCCCACCTTGGGAAAAACAAGCCCCACCTCAGCAGTG	4140
	ThrProThrProAsnAlaThrSerProThrLeuGlyLysThrSerProThrSerAlaVal	
4141	ACTACCCCAACCCCCAAATGCCACCAGCCCCACCTTGGGAAAAACAAGCCCCACCTCAGCA	4200
	ThrThrProThrProAsnAlaThrSerProThrLeuGlyLysThrSerProThrSerAla	
4201	GTGACTACCCCAACCCCCAAATGCCACCGGGCCCTACTGTGGGAGAAACAAGTCCACAGGA	4260
	ValThrThrProThrProAsnAlaThrGlyProThrValGlyGluThrSerProGlnAla	
4261	AATGCCACCAACACACCTTAGGAGGAACAAGTCCCACCCAGTAGTTACCAGGCCAACCA	4320
	AsnAlaThrAsnHisThrLeuGlyGlyThrSerProThrProValValThrSerGlnPro	
4321	AAAAATGCAACCAGTGTGTTACCAAGGCCAACATAACATAACTCAAGTTCAACCTCT	4380
	LysAsnAlaThrSerAlaValThrThrGlyGlnHisAsnIleThrSerSerThrSer	
4381	TCCATGTCACTGAGACCCAGTTCAAACCCAGAGACACTCAGCCCCCTCCACCAGTGACAAT	4440
	SerMetSerLeuArgProSerSerAsnProGluThrLeuSerProSerThrSerAspAsn	
4441	TCAACGTCACATATGCCTTACTAACCTCCGCTCACCAACAGGTGGTGAAATATAACA	4500
	SerThrSerHisMetProLeuLeuThrSerAlaHisProThrGlyGlyGluAsnIleThr	
4501	CAGGTGACACCAGCCTCTATCAGCACACATCATGTGTCACCAAGTTGCCAGCACCCGC	4560
	GlnValThrProAlaSerIleSerThrHisHisValSerThrSerSerProAlaProArg	
4561	CCAGGGCACCACCAAGCCAAGCGTCAGGCCCTGGAAACAGTTCCACATCCACAAACGGGG	4620
	ProGlyThrThrSerGlnAlaSerGlyProGlyAsnSerSerThrSerThrLysProGly	
4621	GAGGTTAATGTCACCAAAAGGCACGCCACCCCAAAATGCAACGTCGCCAGGCCAGT	4680
	GluValAsnValThrLysGlyThrProProGlnAsnAlaThrSerProGlnAlaProSer	
	GGCCAAAAAGACGGCGGTTCCCACGGTCACCTCAACAGGTGGAAAGGCCAATTCTACCACC	

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4681 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 G1yG1nLysThrA1aValProThrValThrSerThrG1yG1yLysA1aAsnSerThrThrThr 4740  
 GGTGGAAAGCACACCAACAGGACATGGAGGCCGGACAAGTACAGAGCCCACCACAGATTAC  
 4741 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 G1yG1yLysHisThrThrG1yHisG1yA1aArgThrSerThrGluProThrThrAspTyr 4800  
 GGCGGTGATTCAACTACGCCAACGACCGAGATAACAATGCGACCACCTATCTACCTCCCAGC  
 4801 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 G1yG1yAspSerThrThrProArgProArgTyrAsnA1aThrThrTyrLeuProProSer 4860  
 ACTTCTAGCAAACCTCGGGCCCCGCTGGACTTTACGAGCCCACCGGTTACCAACAGCCCAA  
 4861 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 ThrSerSerLysLeuArgProArgTrpThrPheThrSerProProValThrThrA1aG1n 4920  
 GCCACCGTGCCAGTCCCGCCAACGTCCCAGCCCAGATTCTCAAACCTCTCCATGCTAGTA  
 4921 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 A1aThrValProValProProThrSerG1nProArgPheSerAsnLeuSerMetLeuVal 4980  
 CTGCAGccaaagcttATCGATGATAAGCTGTCAAACATGA  
 4981 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ 5019  
 LeuG1nProSerLeuSerMetIleSerCysG1nThrEnd

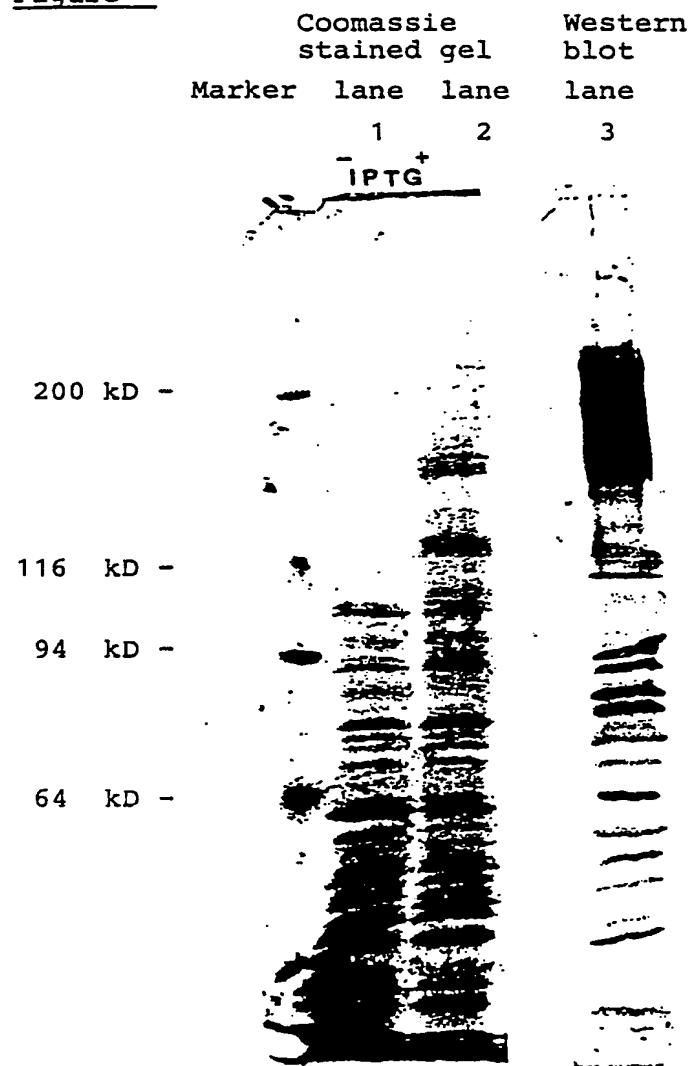
Figure 22

Figure 23

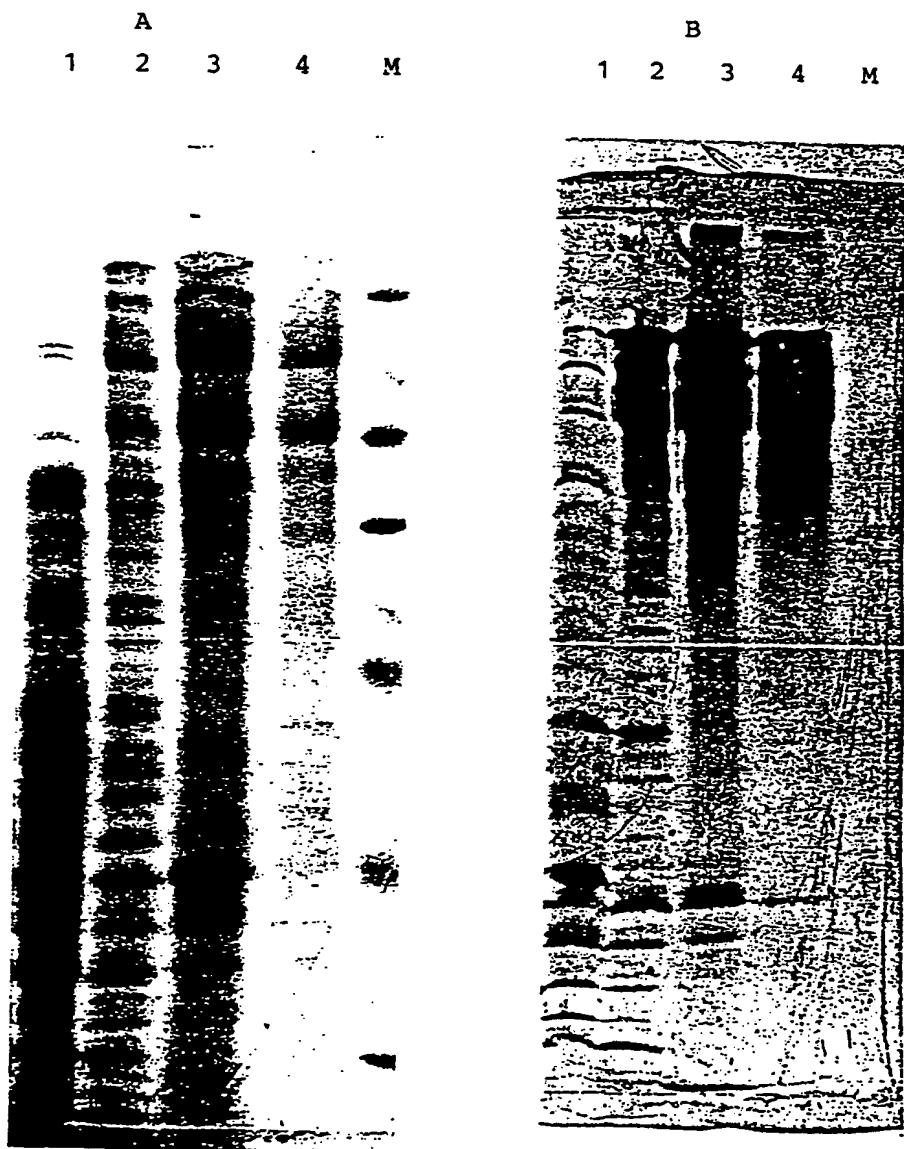


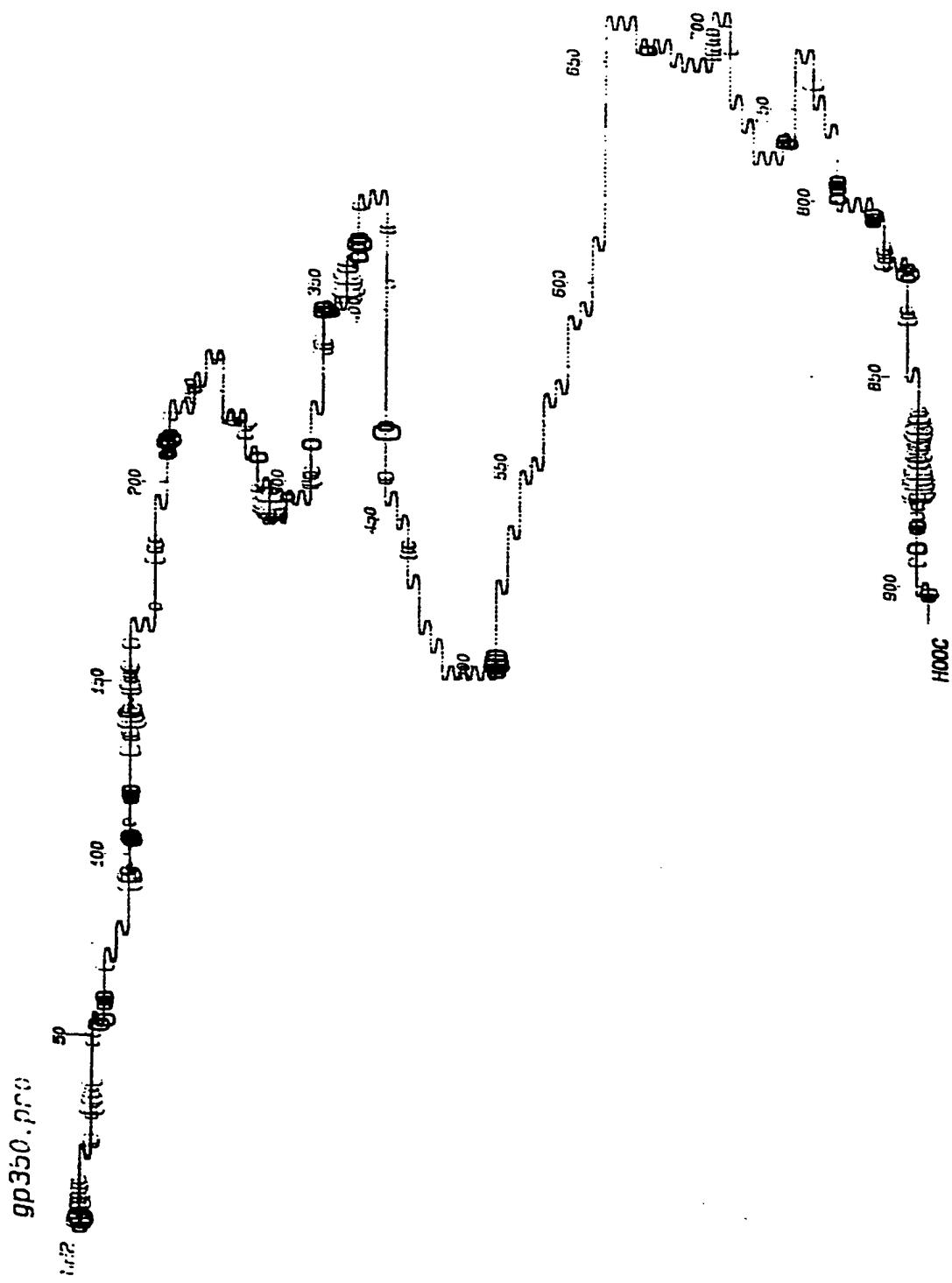
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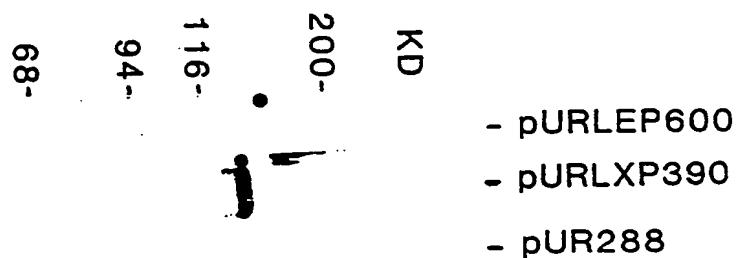
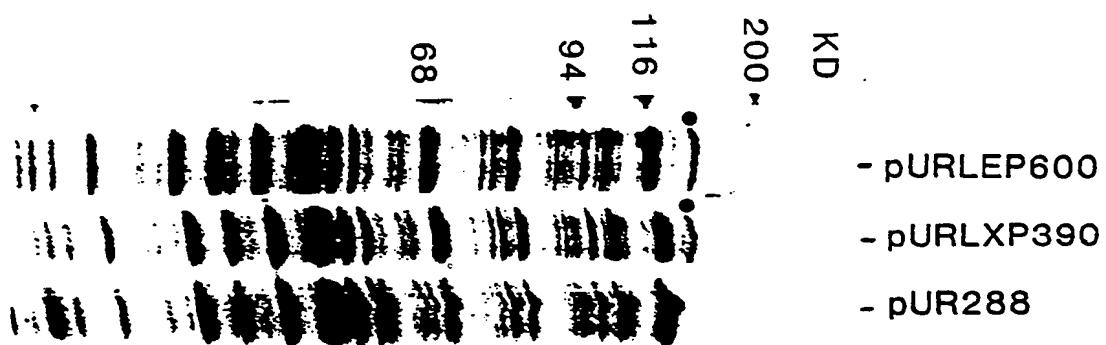
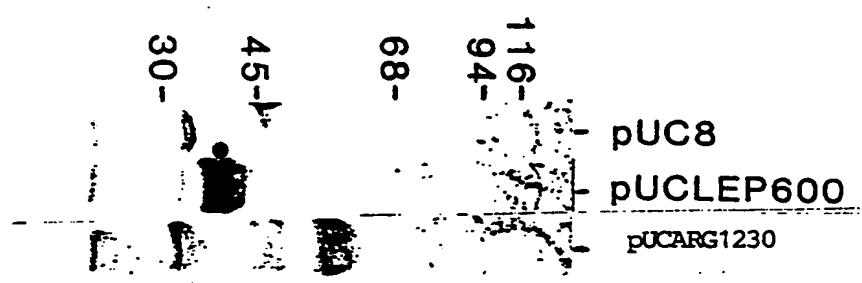
Figure 25:Expression of gp350-fragments as  $\beta$ -gal fusion proteins

Figure 26:

Expression of proteins



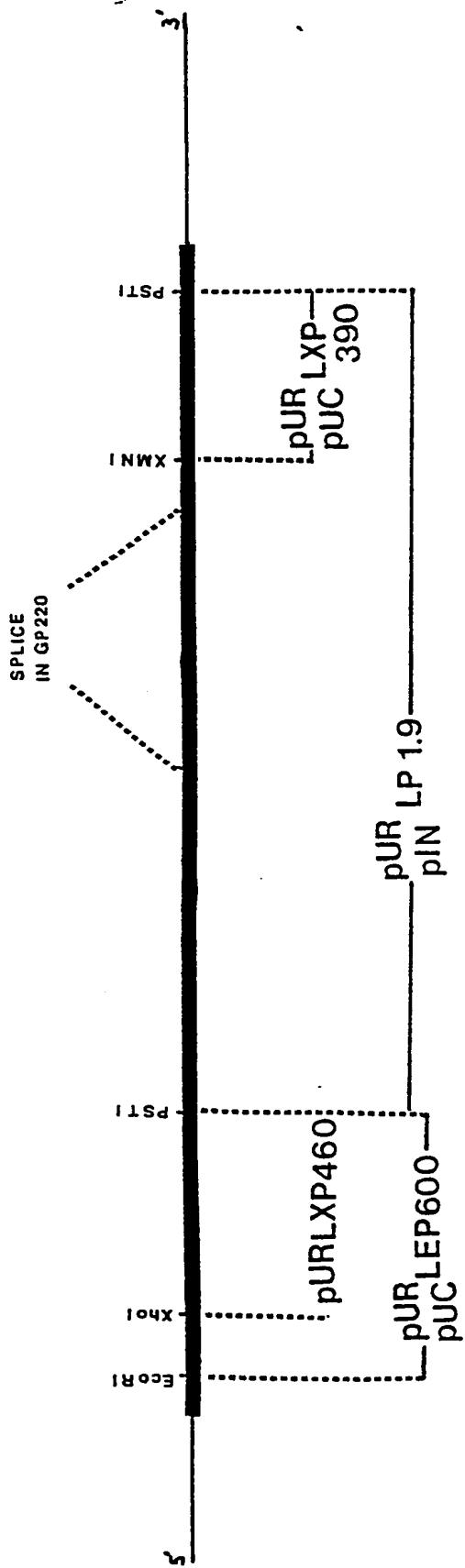


Figure 27: Restriction map of the coding region of gp 250/350

Figure 28

- 1 -

A: p47

7986? GTACGTTGGCTCTGCTGCTTGTGAAACACTCAGACTCTCCGCCTTAAAG 79928  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 CATGCAACCGAAGACGACGACGAACACTAGTACCTTGTGAGTCTGAGAGGGCGAAATTC  
 M E T I T Q T L R E K  
 ACCAAGGCCCTAGCCGICCTGTCCAAGIGCTATGACCAATGCCAGACTCATCTCAAGGG 79928  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 TGGITCCGGGAICGGCAGGGACAGGTICACGATACTGGTACGGGTCTGAGTAAAGTICCC 79989  
 I K A L A V L S K C Y D H A Q T H L K G  
 GGAGTGCAGGTAAACCTCTGTTGIAAACTATGGAGGGCCCCGGCTGGCCGCCGIG 80048  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 CCTCACGACGTCCATTGGAAAGACAGACATITGATACTCCGGGGCCACCGGGCAC  
 G V L Q V N L L S V N Y G G P R L A A V  
 GCCAACGCAGGCACGGCCGGCTAAATCAGCTCGAGGTCTCCCCGACGCIGTGGCCGAG 80049  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 CGGTGCGTCCCGTGGCCGGCCGATIAGTCGAAGCTCCAGAGGGGACTGCGACACGGGCTC 80108  
 A N A G T A G L I S E E V S P D A V A E  
 TGGCAGAAATCACCAAGAGCCCAGAGGGAGGGCCCCGGCCGCGTGTCAATTAGAAACCTTGCC 80109  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 ACCGTCTTATGGGCTCGGGCTCCCTCCGGGGCCGGCAGTAAATCTTGGAAACGG 80168  
 W Q N H Q S P E E A P A A V S E R N L A  
 TACGGGCGCACCTGTGCTGGCAAGGAGCTGTTGGCTCGCTGTGGAGCAGGCTTCC 80226  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 ATGCCCGCGTGGACACAGGACCCGTTCCCTGACAAACCGAGCCGACACCTCGTCCGAAGG 80229  
 Y G R T C V L G K E L E G S A V E Q A S  
 CTGCAATTTAACAGCGGCCACAAGGGGGTCTCCGGCTGAAATTGTTAAGCTACATG 80286  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 GACGTAAAAATGTTGGCTGGGCTCCCTAACAGGGCCGGACTAAACAAATCGAGTGTAC 80348  
 L G E Y K R P Q G G S R P E E V K L T M  
 GAATAATGATAAAGGTTGCTCAAGAGGCCACACACCTGCGCCCTGATGCCCTATATGCC 80289  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 CITATACTACATACACAGGTCTCGGTGGTGGGACGCCGGACTACGGGATATAACGGG 80349  
 E Y D D K V S K S H H T C A L M P Y M P  
 CGGGCCAGCGACAGGCTGAGGAACGAGCAGATGATGGCAGGGCTGTTGATGCCAAG 80408  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 GGCCGGTCTGCTGCTGACTCCTTGCTCGCTACTAACCCGTCACGACAAACTACGGGTC 80409  
 P A S D R L R N E Q M I G Q V L L M P K  
 ACGGCTTCTCGTTGAGGAAGTGGGACGCCAGCAAGGCTAGGGCGGGCTTAAAGGTGACA 80466  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 TCCCGAAGGGAGCGAACGCTCTCACCCGTTGGCTGCTCCGAGTCCGCCGCAATTCCACTGT

- 2 -

c T A S S L Q K W A R Q Q G S G G V K V I  
 80469 CTCATACTGGATCCTACGICACCGTATACTTCTGGGGAGGGCTTGCCTCACCCCTAGAC 80528  
 GAGTITAGGCCTAGAGATGAGTGGTGCATAAGAAGACCCCTCGGACGGAGTGGGAATCTG

c L N P D L Y V T T Y T S G E A C L T L D  
 80529 TACAAGCCCTCTGAGTGGGGCCATACGAGGCCTTCACTGGCCCTGTGGCCAAGGGCTCAG 80588  
 ATGTTCTGGAGAGACTCACACCCCGGTATGCTCCGGAAAGTGGACCGGGACACCGGTCTCGAGTC

c F K P L S V G P Y E A F T S P V A K A Q  
 80589 GACGTGGGGGCCGTTGAGGGCCCACGTTGCTGCTGGTAGCAGCGGACTCGCTGGCGGGCG 80648  
 CTGCAACCCCCGGCAACTCCGGGTGCAACAGACGAGCCATCGTCGCCCTGAGCGACCGGCCG

c D V G A V E A H V V C S V A A D S L A A  
 80649 GCGCTTACGCCCTGCGCAATCCGGCCGTTAGCGTGCCAAATCTTGAGGTTTACAGGCT 80708  
 CGCGAAATCGGAGACGGCGTAAGGCCGGCAATCGCACGGTTAGAACCTCCAAAATGICCGAGA

c A L S L C R I P A V S V P I L R E Y R S  
 80709 GGCAATCATAGCTGTGGGGCCGGCCCTGCTGACGTCAAGCGGGGGACCTGCGCTTGGAATCT 80768  
 CCGTAGTATCGACACCACCGGGCGGACGACTGCACTGCGCCCCCTGGACGGCAACCTAGAA

c G I I A V V A G L L T S A G D L P L D L  
 80769 AGTGTATTTATTTAACACGCCCTCGAAGAGGGCGGCCAGTACGGCTCTGAGCCA 80828  
 TCACAAATAAAATAATGGTGGCGGAGGCTTCCTCCGGCGGGTCAAGCCGGAGACTCGT

c S V I L F N H A S E E A A A S T A S E P  
 80829 GAAGATAAAAGTCCCCGGGTGCAACCACTGGGCACAGGACTCCAAACACGCCCGAGACAT 80888  
 CTCTATTTACGGGGCCCACGTGGTGACCCGTGCTCTGAGGTGTTGCGGGGTCTGTA

c E D K S P R V Q P L G T G L Q Q R P R H  
 80889 ACGGTCACTCCCTCACCTCCGCCACCTCTTACGGACCCCTACTTGGGAGAGTCGG 80948  
 TGCCAGTCAAGGAGGGAGGGGGCGGTGGAGGGATCTGGGATGAAACCCCTCTCAGGC

c T V S P S P S P P P R T P T W S S P  
 80949 GCAAGGCCAGAGACACCCCTCGCTGCCATTCCAGCCACTCCAGCAACACCGCACTGGAG 81008  
 CGTCCGGTCTCTGTGGGAGCGGTAAAGGGTCGGTGAGGGTCGGTGTGGCGTGCACCTC

c A R P E T P S P A I P S H S S N T A L E  
 81009 AGGCCCTGGCTGTTACGCTCGCGAGGAAAAGGACATCGTCGGAGGCCAGGCAGAGCAG 81068  
 TCCGGAGACCGACAAGTCGAGCGCTCCCTTCTGTAAGCCTCCGGTCCCGTCTCGTC

c R P L A V Q L A R K R T S S S A R Q K G  
 AAGCAACCCCAAGGAAGTGAAGCAGGCCTTAAACCCCTCATTTAACACCCATGTTCTCGTG

- 3 -

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76377 AAGTGGITCAGTGGACACCCACCAACACAGCAIGCAACGACCCAGTCATIGCAGAGCAIGAG 76436  
 ITCAACCAAGTCACCTGTTGGGTGTTGTCGTACCGTGTGGTCAGTACAGCTGCTGACTC

c M A T T S H V E H S

76437 CTCCTCTCCAAATIGATTGATIGAGTIAAAGGTCAGGCCAACAGACACCCGAGGCTGAT 76496  
 GAGGAGAGGTITTAACTAACTAACCTCAATTCCAGTTCGGTGTGGAGTCAGTCTGGGCTCCACTA

c L L S K L I D E L K V K A N S D P E A D

76497 GTCTGGCCGGGCGCTGCTCCACCGCCTTAAGGCCAGTCAGTACACACACAGTACGCC 76556  
 CAGGACCGGGCCCGCGACGAGGTGGCGGAATTCGGCTCAGTCAGTCAGTGTGTGTACCGG

c V L A G R L L H R L K A E S V T H T V A

76557 GAAATACCTGGAGGTCTCTCTGACAAATCTACGATGAGGAATTCCTCAGATGACCCGG 76616  
 CTTATAGACCTCCAGAAGAGACIGTITTAAGATGCTACTCCCTAAAGAAGGTCTACGTGGCC

c E Y L E V F S D K E Y D E E F F Q M H R

76617 GATGAGCTGGAGACCCGAGTCCTCTGCTTCGCGCAGAGCCGGCTACGAGCGCACTCGTC 76676  
 CTACTCGACCTCTGGGCTCAGAGACGAAAGCGCGTCTCGGGCCGGATGCTCGCGTAGCAG

c D E L E T R V S A E A Q S P A Y E R I V

76677 TCCAGCGGCTACCTGTCGGCCCTGCGCTACTATGACACCTATCTGTATGTGGGCGCAGC 76726  
 AGGTGCGCGATGGACAGCCGGGACGCGCATGATACTGTGGATAGACATAACACCCCGCGTCG

c S S G Y L S A L R Y Y D T Y L Y V G R S

76737 GGGAAAGCAGGAGAGIGTGCAGCAGTITACATGCGGTIAAGGCCGGCTCTGTGCTCAACC 76796  
 CCCTTCGTCCTCTCACACGTCGIGAAAATGTACGCCAATCGGCCGAAGACACGGAGTGG

c G K Q E S V Q H F Y M R L A G E C A S T

76797 ACCTGCCCTACCGCGGGTCTCAGGGCAGGCCCTGCGAGCGGGCCAGGGCCGGAGATGAGAGT 76856  
 TGGACCGGAGATGCGCCCAGAGTCGGACGTCGCCCCGTCAGTCGCCCTCCGGCTCTAACCTCA

c T C L Y A G L R A A L Q R A R P E I S S

76857 GACATGGAGGTGTTGATTACTACTTGTGACCTAACCTCCCAGACGGTGTGCTGCTCC 76916  
 CTGTACCTCCACAAACTAATGAAACTCGTGGATGGAAGGGTCTGCCACACGACGAGG

c O M E V F D Y T E E H L T S Q I V C C S

76917 ACGCCCTTATGCGCTTGGCGGGGTGGAAAAACGCACTCTGGCCAGCTGCTGCCACACGACGAGG 76976  
 TGCGGGAAAATACGCGAAACGGCCCCACCTTGTGGAGGTGAGACCGGTGACGTAGGAGTGG

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c T P E M R E A G V E N S T L A S C I L I  
 76977 ACCCCCCGACCTCAGCTCCGAGTGGGACCGTGGACCCAGGCCCTCTATAGGCACCTGGGGCGC 77036  
 TGGGGGCTGGAGTCAGGCTCACCCCTGCACGGGGAGATAATCCGTGGACCCCGCG

c T P D L S S E W D V T Q A L Y R H L G R  
 77037 TACCTCTTTCAGCGAGCCGGGGTGGGTTAGGGGTGACGGGGCTGGCCAGGGATGGGAAA 77096  
 ATGGAGAAAAGTCGCTCGGCCCCACCCACATCCCCACTGCCCCCGACCGGTCTACCCCTT

c Y L E Q R A G V G V G V T G A G Q D G K  
 77097 CACATCAGCCTCCIGAIGAGGATGATCAACAGCCACGTGGAGTACCAACTATGGCTGC 77156  
 GTGIAIGTCGGAGGACTACTCTTACTAGTGTGCGTGCACCTCATGGTGTGATAACCGACG

c H I S L L M R M I N S H V E Y H N Y G C  
 77157 AAGAGGCCGGTCAGTGIGGCCGGCTACATGGAGCCCTGGCACAGCCAGATTITCAAGTT 77216  
 TTCTCCGGCCAGTCACACCGCCGGATGTACCTCGGGACCCTGCGGTCTAAAAGTCAAA

c K R P V S V A A Y M E P W H S Q I F K E  
 77217 TTGGAAAACGAAGCTGCCGGAGAACACGAGAGGTGCCCCGGCACTCTTACGGGGCTCTT 77276  
 AACCTTTCGCTCGACGGCTCTTGGGTCTCTCACGGGCCGTAAGAAATGCCCGAGAAA

c L E T K L P E N H E R C P G I F T G L F  
 77277 GTCCCCGAGCTCTCTCAAGCTTTTACGGGACACGCCCTGGTCGGACTGGTACCTGTT 77336  
 CAGGGGCTCGAGAAGAAGTTCGAAAAATCCCTGCGGGACCAGCCCTGACCATGGACAAA

c V P E L E K L F R D T P W S D W Y L F  
 77337 GACCCCAAGGACGCCGGGACCTGGAGAGGGCTCAACGGGGAGGGATTTGAGCGCGAGTAC 77396  
 CTGGGGTTCTGCGGCCCTGGACCTCTCGAGATGCCCTCCTCAACTCGCGCTCATG

c D P K D A G D L E R L Y G E E F E R E Y  
 77397 TATCGGCTGGTACAGCGGGCAAGTTTACGGGCGGGCTCCATCAAGCTGGTACATG 77456  
 ATAGCCGACCACTGTCGCCGTCAAAACACCCGCCAGAGGTAGTTCAGGGACTACAAG

c Y R L V T A G K E C G R V S I K S L m E  
 77457 TCTATCGTCAACTGCGCCGTCAAGGGCGGGCAGCCCCCTCATCCTTTGAGGGAGGCCTGC 77516  
 AGATAGCGAGTTGACCGCGGAGTCCGGCGTCCGGGAAGTAACTTCTCCGGACG

c S I V N C A V K A G S P E I L L K E A C  
 77517 AACGCCCACTTTTGGCGCGACCTGCAAGGGCGAGGGCCATGAAACGCCCAACCTGTGC 77576  
 TTGCGGGTGAAGAACCGCGCTGGACGTCGGCTCCGGTACTTGCAGGGGATGGACACCGCG

c N A H E W R D L Q G E A M N A A N L C A  
 GAGGTGCTGCAGCCCCCTCGAGGAAGTCTGAGGCCACCTGCAATCTGGCCAAACATCTGCCTC

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77577 -----+----- 77636  
 CTCACGACGTGGGAGCTCCCTACAGACACGGGAGCTAGACCGGTTGAGACGGAG

c E V L Q P S R K S V A T C N L A N I C L  
 CGCGCGTGCCTGGTGAATGCGCTCTGGCGGTGGGGCACAGCGGGCACACSCAGGG

77637 -----+----- 77696  
 GGCACGGACGGACCACITACGCAGAGACCGCCACGCCGTTGCGCCGGCTGCGCCCC

c P R C L V N A P L A V R A Q R A D T Q G  
 GATGAACCTGCTGGCCCTCCCTCGACTCTCAGTCACCTACCTGGAGAGGGGGCAGTC

77697 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 77756  
 CTACTTGGAGACGACCGGGAGGGAGCTGAGAGTCAGTGGGATGGACCTCTCCCCCGTCAG

c D E L L L A L P R L S V T L P G E G A V  
 GGTGATGGATTCCTCGCTAGCCCGCTCAGAGATGCCACCCAGTGTGCCACCTTGTGGTG

77757 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 77816  
 CCACTAACCTAACGAGCGATCGGGCGGAGCTCTACGGTGGGTCACACGGTGGAAACACAC

c G D G F S L A R L R D A T Q C A T F V V  
 GCCTGCCTCCATTCTCAGGGATCCCCCACTTATGATTCCAGGGATAIGGCCTCCATGGGC

77817 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 77876  
 CGGACGAGGTAAGAAGTCCCTAGGGGGTGAATACIAAGGTCCCTATACCGGAGGTACCCG

c A C S I L Q S P T Y D S R D M A S M G  
 CTCGGGGTGCAGGGCCTGGCCGATGTCCTTGCGGACCTGGGCTGGCAHTACACTGACCCCT

77877 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 77936  
 GAGCCCCACGTCCCCGGACCGGCTACAGAAACGCTGGGACCCGACCGTCAGTGTGACIGGG

c L G V Q G L A D V F A D L G W Q Y T D P  
 CCCCTCTCGCTCGTAAACAAAGGAAATATTCGAAACATATGTAACCTTACGGCCCTCTGCACC

77937 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 77996  
 GGGAGAGCGAGCAATTGTTCCCTTATAAGCTTGTATACATGAAATGCGGGAGACGCTGG

c P S R S L N K E I F E H M Y F T A L C T  
 AGTAGTCIGATTGGACTTCACACCGAGGAAGATTTCGGGTTTCAAAACAGAGCAAGTAT

77997 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 78056  
 TCATCAGACTAACCTGAAGTGTGGTCCTCTAAAGGCCAAAGTTGTCTGTTCAIA

c S S L I G L H T R K I E P G E K Q S K F  
 GCCGGGGGGTTCCTACTGGCACGATGGGCAAGGAACAGACCTTCTATCCAGGGAA

78057 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 78116  
 CGGCCCCCCCACCAAAGTGACCGTGCTAACCCGTCCTGTCTGGAAAGATAAGGGTCCTT

c A G G W E H W H D W A S T D L S I P R E  
 ATTTGGCTCGCTCTCTGAAACGCTTGTGAGGGATGGGCTTTCATTCACAGTTTATC

78117 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 78176  
 TAAACCCAGAGCGGAGAGACTTGCTAACACUTCCCTACCCGAAGATAAGTGTCAAAAG

c I W S R L S E R I V R D G L E N S Q E I  
 GCCCTGATGCCACCTCAGGCTGTCGGCAAGGTGACGAGCTGTTGGACGCCCTCTACCCC

78177 -----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+----- 78236  
 CGGGACTACGGGTGGAGTCCGACACGGGTCCACTGCCCCGACRAAGCCTGCGGAAGATGGGG

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c A L M P T S G C A Q V T G C S D A E Y P  
 78297 TCTATGCCAAIGCGTCCACCAAGGICACCAACAAGGAGGGCCCTAGGCCAAACCGG 78296  
 AAGATACGGTACGCGAGGTGGTCCAGGGTGTCTCCCTCCGGAAATCCGGTTGGCC

c E Y A N A S T K V T N K E E A L R P N R  
 78297 TCTTTTGGCGTACATGIGCGTCTGGATGACAGGGAAAGCTTGAATCTTGTGGGGCGT 78356  
 AGAAAAAACCGCAGTACACGCGAGACCTACTGTCCCTICGAAACTAGAACAGCCCCCGCA

c S F W R H V R L D D R E A L N L V G S R  
 78357 GTCTCTGCCTCCCGAGGGCTCTGCAGCGCTACCTGCTTCCAAACGGCCCTTGT 78416  
 CAGAGGACGGAGGGCCCTCCGAGACGCGCGTCGCGATGGACGCAAAAGGTTTGCCGGAAACTA

c V S C L P E A L R Q R Y L R E Q T A E D  
 78417 TACAACCAGGAGGGACCTGATGAGATGICCCGGGACAGGGCCCCCTITGTGGACCAAGC 78476  
 ATGTTGGTCCCTGGACTAAGTCTACAGGGCCCTGTCCCCGGGGAAACACCTGGTCTCG

c Y N Q E D L I Q M S R D R A P F V D Q S  
 78477 CAACTCACAGCCTGTTTGCGTGTGGAGGAAGATGCCGCGCGGCCAGCACGCTAGCCAAC 78536  
 GTTAGAGTGTGGACAAAAACGCACTCTACGGCGCGCCGGTGTGCGATCGGTIG

c Q S H S L E L R E E D A A R A S T L A N  
 78537 CTACTGGTGCAGCTACGAGCTGGGCCTGAAGACTATCACTGACTATITGTGCAITGAG 78596  
 GATGACCAACGCGTCAATGCTCGACCCGGACTCTGTAGTACATGATAACAGCGTAACTC

c L L V R S Y E L G L K T I M Y Y C R I E  
 78597 AAGGCCCGGATCTGGGGTGATGGAGTGTAAAGGCCAGCGCGCTCTGTGGTGCACGGG 78636  
 TTCCGGCGGCTAGACCCCCCACTACCTCACATTCGGTGCACGGCGAGACGCCACGGCGCC

c K A A D L G V M E C K A S A A L S V P R  
 78637 GAGGAACAGAAATGAGCGGAGICCCGCTGAGCAGATGCCGCCCTGCTCCATGGAAACCGCG 78716  
 CTCCCTGCTTACTCGCCCTCAGGGCGACCTCGTACGGCGGAGCAGGGTACCTGGCCGC

c E E Q N E R S P A E Q M P P R P M E P A  
 78717 CAGGTTGGGGGCCGGTGTAGCATGAGCAAGGGCCCAGGGGAGGGACCCAGGGTGGGG 78776  
 GTCCAAACGCCCGGCCAACTGTAGTACTCGTCCGGGTCCCTCCCTGGTCCACCCACC

c Q V A G P V D I M S K G P G E G P G G W  
 78777 TGTGTGCCCCGGGGATGGAAAGTGTGCTATAAGTACCGTCACTCTCTCAGAGGATGAT 78836  
 ACACACGGGCCCTAACCTCACACGATAATTCAAGGCGATCGAGAAGAGTCTCTACTA

c C V P G G L E V C Y K Y R Q L S S E D D  
 CTGGTGGAGACTGACGGTTTACTGAACGAGCCGTGAAATCTTGCCAAIAACGTTTATT

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78837 ----- 78896  
GACAACCTCTGACTGCCAAAATGACTTGCTCGGACACTAGAACGGTTATTGCAAAATAA

c L L E T D G E T E R A C E S C Q \*

GCCATGICCCAAGTGTGTTG

78897 ----- 78914  
CGGIACAGGTCAACAAAC

c

C: p143

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1700 ITAGAGACACTAICACGIGIAACTTGACGIGCAAGGATGGAAAGAGAGGGGGCAGGGAAACG 1759  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 AATCTCTGATAGTGACACATGAACTGACGACSTICCTACCTTCTCCTCCCGTCCCTTGC  
 M E S R G R E T  
 b CAAATGCGGTIGCCCGGTATGGGGGCCGTTTATTAATGGTAAGGCTCTCGGGCAAGAT 1819  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 1760 GTTACGGCCAACGGGCCATACCCCCGGGCAAATAATAACCAITCCGAGAAGCCCCTCTA  
 b Q M P V A R Y G G P F I M V R L E G Q D  
 1820 GGAGAGGCACACATACAGGAGGAAGGGCTATAIGAGCTACCTCTGACCCACGCCTCCG 1879  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 CCTCTCCGTTGATGCTCCCTTCCGATAATACCTCGATAGAGAGACTGGGTGCGAGGC  
 b G E A N I Q E E R L Y E L L S D P R S A  
 1830 CTCGGCCIAACCCCCGGGCCCTGATITGCTGAGAACCTCTGCTAGTGGCGCTGCGTGGC 1939  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 GAGCCGGATCTGGGCCCGGGACTAACGACTCTGGACGACGATCACCGCGACGCACCG  
 b L G L D P G P L I A E N L L L V A L R G  
 1940 ACCAACAAACGATCCCAGGCCCTCAGCGTCAGGAGAGGGCCAGAGAACCTGGCCCTCGTGGC 1999  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 TGGTGTGCTAGGGTCCGGAGTCGAGTCCTCTCCGGCTCTGACCGGGAGCAACCG  
 b I N N D P R P Q R Q E R A R E L A L V G  
 2000 ATTCATAGGAAACGGCGAGCAGGGTGAACACTTGGCACGGAGACTGGCCCTCGTGGAGGCC 2059  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 TAAGATGATCTTGCCTCGTCCCACTTGTGAACCCGTGCGCTCTCACGGGACCTCCGG  
 b I L L G N G E Q G E H L G T E S A L E A  
 2060 TCAGGCAACAACTATGTGATGCTACGGACGACTGGATGGCAAGGCCTCCACATGG 2119  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 AGTCCGTTGTTGATAACACATACGGATGCTGCTGACCTACCGTCCGGAGGGTACCC  
 b S G N N Y V Y A Y G P D W M A R P S T W  
 2120 TCCCGGGAAATCCAGCAATTCCTGCGACTCCCTGGCGCACGTAACGTGCTCGCGTGGAG 2179  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 AGGCGCTTIAAGGTCGTTAAGGACGCTGAGGGACCCGCGGTGATGACGAAAGCGCACCTC  
 b S A E I Q Q E L R L L G A T I V L R V E  
 2180 ATGGGCAGGGCAGTTTGGCTTCGAGGTGATAGAAAGCCGGCCCCTCCGTCAGTCCAG 2239  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 TACCCGTCGGTCAAACCGAAGGCTCACGTAICCTCGGCCGGAGGAAGGCAGTCAGGTC  
 b M G R Q E G E E V H R S R P S F R Q E Q  
 2240 GCGAATCAATCAUCCTGGCTGTTGACAAACGCCCTTCGCAAGTACGATTCGCCGGTGC 2299  
 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
 CGGTAGTTAATGGAAACAGGACAAACGCTGTTGCGGGAGGGTCAIGCTAAGGCCGGTCCAC

- 10 -

b A I N H L V L E D N A L R K Y D S G Q V  
 2300 GCGGCAGGGCTTCCAGAGGGCCCTTCCTGGGCGGGCCAGAGACCGCTGACACGAGGGCG  
 CGCCGCCCGAAGGTCTCCCGGAAGACCAACCGGCCGGTCTCTGGCGACTGTGCTCCGGC 2359

b A A G E Q R A L L V A G P E T A D T R P  
 2360 GACCTCCGCAAGCTGAATGAGTGGGTGTTGGGCGAGGCGCTGCTGGTGGCAGACAGCTG  
 CTGGAGGGCGTCTGACTTACTCACCCACAAACCCACCGTCCCCGACGACCCACCGTCTGTCGAC 2419

b D L R K L N E W V E G G R A A G G G R Q L  
 2420 GCCGACGAGCTAAAGATCGTCCGCGCTGCGAGACACTIACCTGGGCCACTGGGICCTT  
 CGGCTGCTCGATTCTAGCACAGGCGCGACGCTCTGTAATGAGGCCGGTGAACCAAGGAA 2479

b A D E L K I V S A L R D T Y S G H L V L  
 2480 CAGCCCACGGAGACCCCTTGACACATGGAAAGGTTGAGCAGGGACACACGAAACCGCTCAT  
 GTGGGGTGCCTCTGGGAACGTGTAACCTTCCACAAACTCGTCCCTGTGTGCTTGCGAGTA 2539

b Q P T E T L D T W K V ' L S R D T R T A H  
 2540 AGTTTGGAGCACGGATTCACTATGCCGCGGGGACCACTCCAGGCCAACTGCCCACAGCTG  
 TCAAACCTCGTGCCTAAGTAAGTACGGCGCCCTGGTAGGTCCGGTGTGACGGGIGTCGAC 2599

b S L E H G E I H A A G T I Q A N C P Q L  
 2600 TTATGAGACGCCAGCACCCGGCTCTTCCCTCGTTAAAGCAATAGCATCATCGCTG  
 AAAACTCTGCGGTGCGGGGGCCGGAGAAAGGGAAAGCAATACGTTATCGTAGTACGCGAC 2659

b E M R R Q H P G L E P E V N A I A S S L  
 2660 GGCCTGGTACCTACAGACGCCACCGGCCGGGAGCAGATGCCAGGGCGGCCGGCGC  
 CGACCATGATGGTCTGGCGGTTGGCCGGCTCGTCTACGGTCCCGCCGCCGGCGCG 2719

b G W Y Y Q T A T G P G A D A R A A A R R  
 2720 CAACAGGCCCTTCAGACCAAGGGCGGGCGCTGAAATGCCATGCCAAGGGGGTGGCGCGC  
 GTTGTCCGGAAAGTCTGGTCCCAGCCGACTTACGGTACGGTTTTCGCCCCACGGCGAC 2779

b Q Q A E Q T R A A A E C H A K S G V P V  
 2780 GTGGCCGGCTTCTACAGGACCATCAACGCCACGCTCAAGGGAGGGAGGGGCCACAGCCC  
 CACCGGCCGAAGATGTCTGGTAGTGTGGTGCAGITCCCTCCCTCCGGATGTGCGG 2839

b V A G F Y R T I N A T L K G G E S L Q P  
 2840 ACTAATGTTAACGGGGAGCTGGGGGCCAICAAGCACCGAGCAGTGAACACTGAGGTAT  
 TGATACAAATGCCCCCTCGACCCCCGGTAGTTCTGGTCCGTGAACTGTGACACTCCATA 2899

b T M E N G E L G A I K H Q A L O T V R Y  
 GACTACGGCCACTATCTCATTAATGTGGGGCCATTCCAGCCAATGGAGCGGACTGACGGCC

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b P V F L D V D E S M D I S P S T E L P W  
 3560 CTCCTCGCIGGGAGTCATGCTCACAAAGCATCCTGTCACACCCCCACCGTGCGGAAGCAAGGGAG 3614  
 GAGAGCGACCTCAGTACGGAGTGTCTAGGACAGTGTGGGGTGGCACCCCTCGTTCTC

b L S L E S C L T S I L S H P T V G S R E  
 3630 CACTTGGICAGGGCACACGGACAGGGTCAGCGGGAGGACGCGTGGCACAGCAGCCCCGGGTA 3679  
 GTGAACCAGTCCSITGTGCCTGICCCAGTCGCCTCCIGCGCACCGTGTCGTCTGGGCCCCAT

b H L V R H T D R V S G G R V A Q Q P G V  
 3680 GGICCCCTGGACCTGCGCTGGCGGACTACGCCCTCGTGGCCCACAGTCAGGGTGCGACC 3738  
 CCAGGGGACCTGGACGGCGACCGCCCTGAIGCGGAAGCAACGGGTGTCAAGTCCAGACCTGG

b G P L D L P L A D Y A F V A H S Q V W T  
 3740 AGGCCCGGTGGGGCTCCCTCCCTGCCCTATCGTACCTGGGATCGAAIAGACAGAGAAGCTG 3799  
 TCCGGGCCACCCCGAGGAGGGAAACGGGATAGCAAGGACCCCTAGCTACTGCTCTCGAC

b R P G G A P P L P Y R I W D R M T E K L  
 3800 CTGTCTCCGCAAAACCCGGCGGAGAGAACGTTAAGGTTACGGTACCGTGATTACATG 3859  
 GAACAGAGGCCTTGGGCCCTCTCTGCAATICCAAGTCCATGGCACTAAIGTAAAC

b L V S A K P G G E N V K V S G T V I T L  
 3860 GGAGAACAGGGTACAAAGTGTGTTGGATCTGAGGGAGGGAACCCAGGCTGGCAATGGCT 3919  
 CCTCTTGICCCCCATGTTACAGCAACCTAGACTCCCTCCCTGGTCCGACCGTTACCGA

b G E Q G Y K V S L D L R E G T R L A M A  
 3920 GAGGCCTGCTGAAACGCAAGCATGTTGGCCCAATCTGGATCCGGAAAGACGCTTGCTAAC 3979  
 CTCCGCGACGACTTGCGCTCGTACACGGGGTIAAGAACCTAGGCCTCTGCAAGAACGAGTGG

b E A L L N A A C A P I L D P E D V L L T  
 3980 CTGCACTACACCTGGATCCGGCGGGCAGACAACTCGCCGTTGATGGAGGGCTATGACG 4039  
 GACGTAGATGGGACCTAGGGCGCGGGCTGTGAGCCGGCACTAACCTCCGATACTGCG

b L H L H L D P R R A D N S A V M E A M T  
 4040 GCGGCAGTGTACGCGCGTGGCTGGCGTGAAGCTGACCTTGGCTCGGCCTCTGCG 4099  
 CGCCGCTCACTGATGCGCGCACCGAACCCGACTTCGACTGGAAACCGAGCCGGAGGACG

b A A S D Y A R G L G V K L T E G S A S C  
 4100 CCCGAGACCGGGCTCGTCCGCGCTCCAACTCTAGACCGTGGGCGCTCTGTCCTCCGCCCCA 4159  
 GGGCTGCGGGAGCAGGCGGAGGTGAAGTACTGGCACCCGGAGACAGAGGCGGGGT

b P E T G S S A S N E M I V V A S V S A P  
 4120 GGGGAATTCTGGGGTCCCTGATCACCCAGTGCTTCAGAAAGACGGGCAAGTCTCTGATT

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b Y G Y N E A L A V S P L I G K N L S P R  
4820 CGGTIGGGTACAGAGCCCTGACCCACCGAATGTCAGGTGGCCGTGCTATGCGCCCGGGCACC  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
GCCAACCACACTGTCCTCGGACTGGGTGCTACAGTCCACCGGACAGATAACGCGGGGCCGTGG  
b R L V I E P D P R C Q V A V L C A P G T  
4880 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
AGGGGCCATGAAAAGCTCTCTGGCGGCCCTACAGAAATGCGGGATGCGCTGIGCCGACGGGTG  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
ICCCCGGTACTTTCGGAGGGACCGCCGGAAAGTGCTTACGGCCTACGGACACGGCTGCCCAC  
b R G H E S L L A A E T N A G C L C R R V  
4940 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
ITCTTTCGCGAGGGTAAAGGGACAAACACGTTCTCGACAAGTACGTGGGTCTGGCCATCGGA  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
AAGAAAGCGCTCCAATCCCCTGTTGCAAGGGAGCTGTTCAACCCAGACCGGTAGCCCT  
b E E R E V R D N T E L D K Y V G L A I G  
5000 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
GGAGTICATGGGGCCAGGGACCTCTGCCCTGGCAGGGCGTGGCCACCGTGGCGTGTAAATA  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
CCCTCAAGTACCCCGGTCCCTGAGACGGGACCGTCCGGCACGGTGGCACCGCAGCTAAITA  
b G V H G A R D S A L A G R A T V A L I N  
5060 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
CGTTTCCCCGCCCTGCGTACGCTTATCTAAAGTTCTCAACAGGGCAGATAACGTTCTCG  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
GCAAAGGGGCGGGACGCACTGCGATAAGATTCAAGGGAGTGTCCGGTCTATGCAAGAGC  
b R E P A L R D A I L K F L N R P D T F S  
5120 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
GIGGCCCTGGGGGAGCTGGGGGIGCAAGTTTGGCTGGCCTGGGGCCGTGGGTCAACA  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
CACCGGAACCCCTCGACCCCCACGTTCAAAACCGACCGGACCCCCGGCACCCAGTTGT  
b V A L G E L G V Q V L A G L G A V G S I  
5180 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
GATAATCCACCCGCCCTGGCGTGGAAAGTTAAATGCTCCAGAGATCACCTCTGATTCCTGGCC  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
CTATAGGTTGGGCGGGGACCGCACCTTCAAATACAGGCTCTAGTGAGAGACTAAGACCGG  
b D N P P A P S V E V N V Q R S P L I L A  
5240 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
CCCAACGCCCTGGCAATGTTGAGTCCCGCTGGCTGAAACATTAGCATCCCGGCGGCCACC  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
GGGTGCGGAGACCGTACAAACTCAGGGCGACCGACTTGTAATCGTAGGGCCGCTGGTGG  
b P N A S G M E E S R W L N I S I P A T T  
5300 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
AGCTCTGTCATGCGTGGCCCTGGGGCTGCGTCCTGCTTGTGGGTGCAAGGGCTCG  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
TCCGAGACAGTACCGCACCGGAGGGCCCCGACCGCAGGACGGAACAACCCACGTTCCGAGC  
b S S V M L R G L R G C V L P C W V Q G S  
5360 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
TGCCTGGGCCTGCAATTTACTAACCTCGGGATGCCATAATGTTTGCAAGAATGCCACCAAG  
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
ACGGACCCGGACGTTAAATGAGTGGAGCCCTACGGTATAACAAACGTTACGGGTGGTC  
b C L S L W E T N L G M P Y V L Q N A H U  
5419 +-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+  
ATCGGCTGCCACTTCCACAGCAATGGCACGGATGCCCTGGCGCTTGCTAAGAATTATCCA

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D: p150

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43300 ATCCCACTTATIGACAATATCAAAAAACCCCTTATTCACCTAAACCTTAAATATCTCG 43359  
 TAGGTAGAAATAACTGTAAATAGTTTGTGGAAATAAGGTTTGAATAAGAAAGC  
 d \* \* E V V K N G E K L I R R  
 43360 TACCGGCGCCACCTCTCAATTATATAGTGTCCGTAATGGATGGGGCGGGTCTGTT 43419  
 ATGGCCGCGGTGGAGAAGTAAATATACAGGCATTACCTAACCCCGCACCCAGACAAA  
 d V P A V E E I I Y H G Y H I P A H T Q K  
 43420 GACAGACATAAACCTCACTGATGAGTGCCTGGGAGGGCTGAGAGTGCCTGGAAATGCC 43479  
 CTGTCITATITGAGTAGCTACTCACGGGCCCTCCGACCTCTCACGCCCTAACGGAG  
 d V S M E E D I L A R S S A S L A P E A E  
 43480 CTCAGAAAAGCTGCAGGGCTGCTCCAGAAAACAGTCAGTGCAGCAATCACTACAAAC 43539  
 GACGTCCTTCGACGTCGGCACGAGGTCCTTGTGAGTCAGTCAGGGCTGTTAGIGATGTTGAC  
 d Q L E S C P Q E L E V D T G A I V V F Q  
 43540 CACCTCTGTTGCTGGTGGCTGGGCTCCCAAGTCGCTGGCTGTTAGTACCTGTTGACCAT 43599  
 GIGGAGACACACGACCACCGACCCACGGGAGGGTCAAGCAGGACATGAGCAACTGGTA  
 d V E T N S T A P H G G L R Q S Y E N V M  
 43600 GTTGTAGAGTCCTCTGTTGCTGCGAGAAGCTCCCTTGTGAAAAATGCCGGCAGGG 43659  
 CAACATCTCAGGGGACAACAAACGCGCTTCTGAGGGAGGAACAACTTTTACGGGCCGTC  
 d N Y L G R N N R L L E S K N E F A R C P  
 43660 GCTGTAGAGGCCGGGACGGCGCTGGCGATAAGGAGGTGTACATGAGTCACCCAG 43719  
 CGACATCTCCGGGCCCTGCGGCAAGCCCTATCTCTCAACATGTTACTACAGTGGGTC  
 d S Y L G P V A T Q R Y S S N Y M I D S L  
 43720 AGAAACCCAGCTGAGAATGCCAGGGATTCACAGTGTCTCCGGTATTCAAGGGGGCATCCGG 43779  
 TCTGGGTCGACTCTACGGGCTCAAGTGTACGAGGGCATAAGTATCCGGCGTAGGGCC  
 d S G L Q S A W P N V T S R Y E Y A A D P  
 43780 GCGAGAAATGGTCATAGAAGAGCCCTCGGCAACCTCTGATGTTGAGTTCACAGGGAGAC 43839  
 CGCTCTTACCACTGTTACTCGGGGAGCCGTGAGGGACTAACATCAAAAGTGTCTG  
 d R S H D Y I L G E A V E Q N Y N E C S V  
 43840 CACACAGGGGGGGCTCCCTTGGAGAGTGGTGTGAAATAAGCCAGGTGCGCTGCGCT 43899  
 GTGTGTCGGGGGGAGGGGAAACCTCTAACCTGAAACTTTATTCGGTGCAGACGGCA

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d D H D G N V R Y G Y L A V E Q A A M E D  
 45160 CATGTTTCCAAACCTCTCAATAAACTGGGGCGCGGCCAGGGTGTCAAGCGTAAACCTCATT  
 GIACAAAGGTGGGAGAGTTATTTGACCCCGCGCCGGTCCCACAGTCGCAITTGAGTAA 45219

d M N G V R E I P Q P A A L T D A Y V E N  
 45220 TCCGATTAATAATCTGGGGGGCCCGGTCACTAACGGTGGAGAAGAATGGGTGAAAAATGTCGT  
 AGGCTATTATAGACCCCCCGGGCCAGGAGGTTGCCACTCTACCCACTTACAGACA 45279

d G I I I Q P A R D S V T L L H T E I D T  
 45280 STAGGCCACCGGGGGGGAGCAGGTTAGGGTCCAGGGAGAGCGCAGACATACTGACCCACGCT  
 CATCGGGTGGCCCCCTCGTCCAATCCCAGGTCCCTCGCGCTCTGATGACTGGGTGCGA 45339

d Y A V P P L L N P D L L A C V Y Q G V S  
 45340 CTCATCCCCCACAAACATCTGACCCGGCCAGGCACATCAGGGCCTGCTCTAGGGCTAAAG  
 GAGTAGGGGGTGTGAGACTGGCCCGGTCCCGCTAGTCCCCGGACGAGATCCCGATATTC 45399

d E D G V V D S G A L R M L A Q E L A I L  
 45400 TTCCCCATAGATTTCTATACATGGAAATAGGCCCTCTGGAGATGGCGTATTICCCAG  
 AAGGGGTAATCTAAAAAGATATGTACCTATCCGGAGGAACCTCTACCGCAAAAGGGTC 45459

d E G I I K R Y M S Y A E K S I A N N G L  
 45460 GTGGCGGCAGATGAACTTGATCATGGAAAAGCTGTCTACAAAGGCAAGCCCTGGACCG  
 CACCGCCGCTACTTGAACTAGTACCTTTTGACAAAGTGTITCCGTTGGAGGGACTGGC 45519

d H R C I E K I M S F S N V E A L R G S R  
 45520 TTCCGAGTAGGTGTGATGACACAGGGACACCAAAAGGCACGTCTATGACAAACTTTCTC  
 AAGGGTCACTCACAACTACGTGTCCCTGIGGTTCCGTGCAAGTACITGAAAGGGAG 45579

d E A Y T N I C L S V L P V N M V E K E E  
 45580 AAACCCGTGGATCATAGCCTCGACTACGTAGAAGAAGGCTGGATAGGCAGTGTCAAGGC  
 TTTGGGCACCTAGTATCGGAGCTGATGCACTTCTCCGACCTATCCGTACAGTATCCG 45639

d E G H I M A E V V Y E E A P Y A T D Y A  
 45640 AGTATCCTGACAGTCTCAATAACGGCCTGATCCACCGTGGGCCAGAGAATGTCGGCGGT  
 TCAATAGGACGTGTCAAGAGTTATGCGGGAACGAGTGGTGCACCCGGTCTCTACACCGCCA 45699

d I D Q V I E I V A Q D V V H A L S T A T  
 45700 CTCAAAACTGCTGCCCCGGGCCCTTGGAAAGCAGCTGGGCCAGGGGAGTCGGCAGGGT  
 GAGTTTGACGACGGGGGGCCCGGAGAACCTTACGTGCAACCCGGTCCCTCAAGCCGTCACAA 45759

d S F M Q G R A E Q E A A P A L F T P L N  
 ACCGACCATTHGCCGGTGCACAGCCCTGTGCCTGGCCCTCTCCCCGGCATCCCTGCCAAT

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A S I P V R P Q D E V G A A V A P L D S  
46420 CTGGTGCTTCGGCTTTCCGGTGAGTCCACGATCCAGCCATGAAATGCTCAAACTG 46479  
GAACACAGAAGGCCGAAAAAGGCCACTCAGGTGCTAGGATCGGTACTTTACGAGTTGCA  
K T S G A K E P S D V I R A M E H S E I  
46480 ACGCATCACGCGCCCGTACGTCACGGCAGTGGACCAAGGTCTCCCCCGTACCCACAAAAGA 46539  
TSGTGTAGTGCGCGGGCATCGAGTGCGTCACTGGTCCAAGAGGGGGCATGGTGTTCCT  
R M V R G Y S V A I V L N E G R V V F S  
46540 AGCAIAGCTCGAGGGCCCCATIATCIGGTTGCGGCCTCTCACCCAGGAAGGICAAGAG 46599  
TCGTAICGAGCTCCCAGGGTATAGACCAACAGCCGGAGGAGTGGGTCCTCCAGTCCTC  
A Y S S P G M I Q N D A E E G L F T L L  
46600 CTGGCGCAGAACGTTGTCGGTGACAAATAAACACCCCCCCCCACTGGCTCTCCCCCTGGC 46659  
GACCGCGCTTCCAAACAGCCACTCTTATTTGGGGGGGATGACCGAGAGGGGGGAAACCG  
Q R L V N D T V I E V G G V P E G S K A  
46660 GGTCTGTAGGTACTGACCCCTTGAGCACGCTCTCCCCGGACACGGCCGCTACCATCTC 46719  
CCAGCACATCCATGACTGGGGGAACTCGTGCGAGAGGGGCCCTGTGCCGGCATGGTAGAG  
T T Y T S V G K L V S E G S V A A V M E  
46720 AGAGAGACGGCTTCGACGIACTGAGAAAAACCCGGAGCCCAIGTCTCAGGGCCGGTCCAG 46779  
TCTCTCTGCCGAAGCGTCAIGACTCTTGGGCCTCGGGTACAAGAGCCGGCCAGGTC  
S L R S R V Y Q S F G S G M N E A R D L  
46780 GAAGAAAGGAGTGTCCAGCAGATGCCCTTGAAACATGGCAATGAGGTCAAGACTTGACAGT 46839  
CTTCCTCCCTACGAGGTGCTACGGAGAACTTGACCGTACTCCAGTCTGAACCTGCA  
E E S H E L L H S K E M A I L D S K V T  
46840 CTGGAGAACCCCCCTCTCAGTGAAAGGTGGGATCCGGCAGGGTCTGCAGGATAAACATGG 46899  
GAACCTCTTGGGGAGAGTCACCTCCACCCCTAGGCGGTCCCAGACGTCCTATTGTACCC  
K S E G R E T F T P D A L T Q L I S M P  
46900 AGGGGCAATGGCGAAGCTTCACACTCAGGACGGTGTAAATGAGGGCCCTCTCCAGGGCATC 46959  
TCCCCGTAACCGCTTCGAAGTGAGTGCTGCCACAATTACTCCGGGGAGAGGTCCCCGTAG  
P A H R L K V S L V T N I L G R E L A D  
46960 GACCCCCAAACTGTAAGGGCCGAGGCCACGGTCTTGACAGCCCCCACGTACTCTGCGTACTC 47019  
CTGGGGTTTGACATCCCCGGCTCCGGTGCCTAGAAGTGTGCGGGGTGCAAGAGACGCACTG  
F G E I L A S A V T K V A G V Y E A C E  
GACCCGGGGTCTCGGCGAATACATGCAAGGTCTCCAGGTCAGGTCAGGACGATGGACAGTCCTC

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**Figure 29:**  
Expression of the  $\beta$ -gal::p150 fusion proteins

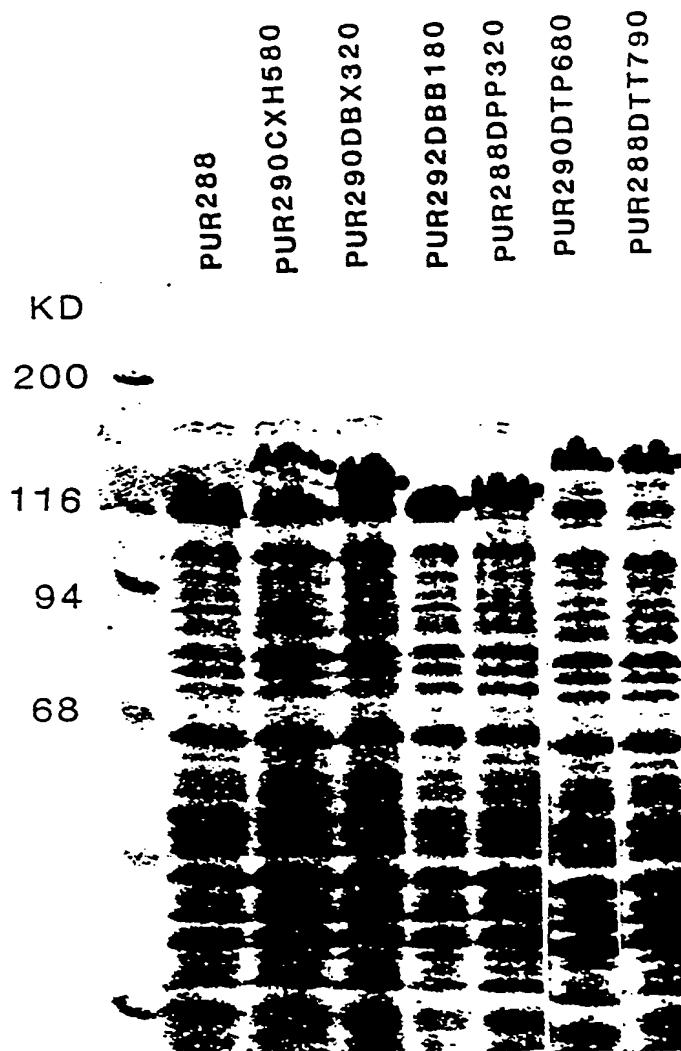


Figure 30:  
Antigenicity of the  $\beta$ -gal::p150 fusion proteins

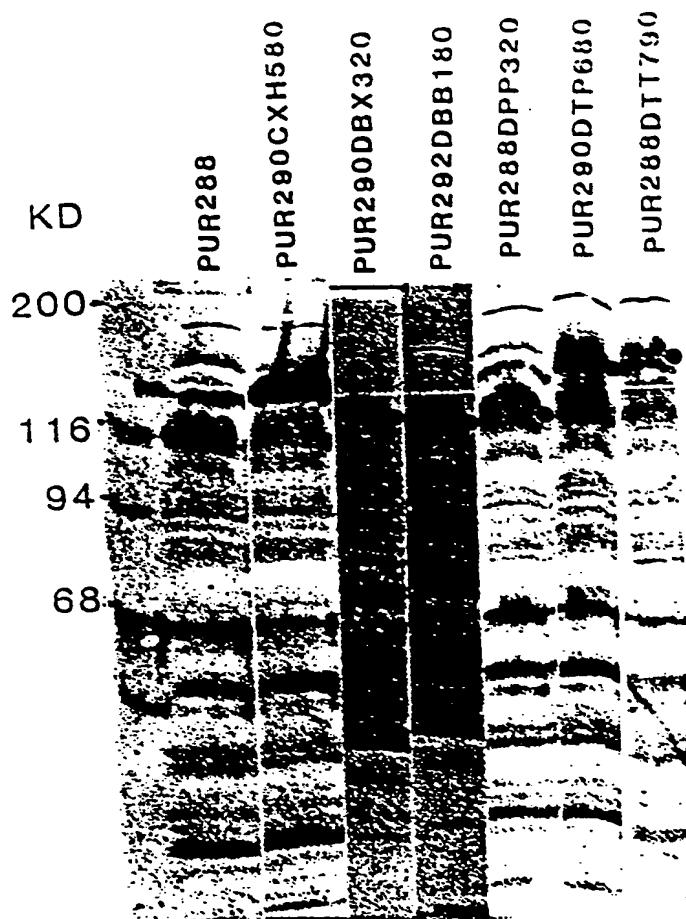
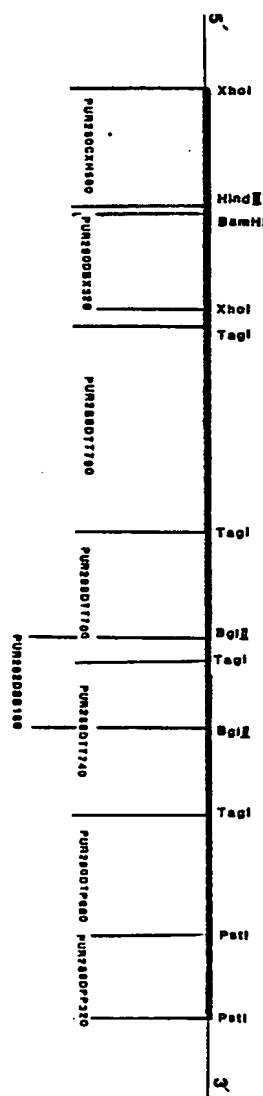


Figure 31:  
Map of the p150 encoding region



0173254



European Patent Office

Application number:

85110565.0

**DECLARATION PURSUANT TO RULE 28, PARAGRAPH 4,  
OF THE EUROPEAN PATENT CONVENTION**

The applicant has informed the European Patent Office that, until the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent or until the date on which the application has been refused or withdrawn or is deemed to be withdrawn, the availability of the micro-organism(s) identified below, referred to in paragraph 3 of Rule 28 of the European Patent Convention, shall be effected only by the issue of a sample to an expert.

**IDENTIFICATION OF THE MICRO-ORGANISMS**

**Accession numbers of the deposits:**

pUCARG 680

DSM 3408



European Patent  
Office

**PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**  
which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention  
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent  
proceedings, as the European search report

Application number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 85110565.0
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
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D, A	INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CANCER, vol. 23, no. 6, June 15, 1979, Helsinki L.F. QUALTIERE et al. "Epstein-Barr Virus-Induced Membrane Antigens: Immunochemical Characterisation of Triton X-100 Solubilized Viral Membrane Antigens from EBV-Superinfected Raji Cells" pages 808-817 * Totality * ----	1,19	
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			C 12 N C 12 P C 07 K A 61 K G 01 N
Place of search VIENNA		Date of completion of the search 19-11-1985	Examiner WOLF
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			